■ ACROSS / A15
John Hay developer gives up 9 hectares to pay taxes

■ TALK OF THE TOWN/ A14
DOH presents draft of bird flu preparedness plan

■ ACROSS / A15
Bayan Muna official shot dead in Tarlac

■ MAGAZINE / Q3
2 grandmas turn to art and discover new energy

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Mikey Arroyo: Now you see him, now you don't

By Nikko Dizon

IT'S THE FASTEST WAY TO rack up those frequent flyer miles.

The President's son, Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo, supposedly

MIKEY / A17

Tree doctors rush to save lives of critical 'patients'

By Blanche S. Rivera

THERE'S A NEW BREED OF DOCTOR whose job it is to preserve the lives of trees.

And he is working quietly, patiently, treating a most critical patient: Metro Manila.

The government is moving to save the metropolis' environment, and has tapped tree

TREE/ A6

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Sunday, October 16, 2005 ★★ 13 sections / Vol. 19 / No. 310 P18 website: www.inq7.net

'They had it coming'

Palace, PNP say protesters provoked cops to fire water cannons

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., Armand N. Nocum and Tina G.Santos

THEY HAD IT COMING.

This was the reaction of Malacañang, a senior Cabinet official and the Manila police yesterday to criticisms against the use of water cannons to mow down hundreds of protesters, led by former Vice President Teofisto Guingona and three Roman Catholic bishops, as they marched peacefully toward the Palace Friday night.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said the incident could have been avoided if the marchers had held their protest elsewhere. Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez and administration lawmakers accused the protesters of using religion to disguise their political intentions.

"We can avoid this kind of incidents if only we coordinate with the city government. It was clear from their agreement that the rally permit was only for Plaza Miranda and if that was held there, there surely would have been no incident," Bunye said in the transcript of a radio interview released by his office.

"But we are not surprised that [they marched on] despite our repeated requests."

The latest of a series of confrontations between the police and demonstrators demanding the resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo occurred near the Mendiola (now Don Chino Roces) Bridge during a march billed by organizers as a religious procession. The marchers had with them statues of the Virgin Mary and were praying the rosary instead of chanting anti-Arroyo slogans.

Local officials have declared Mendiola—historically the site of protests against presidents—off-limits to demonstrators. Bunye stressed that Malacañang was not out to muzzle its critics.

"If you're talking of freedom of expression, they can always express their sentiments in media. If they want to demonstrate, they have areas designated for demonstrations," Bunye said.

He said that Mendiola was in a university belt where four major educational institutions were located.

"Any rally here by a few hundreds of

THEY/ A6

WARNING: COLOR THEM CUTE BUT ...
Painted by enterprising street vendors and sold along a street in Manila, the chicks are irresistible to children. But with the global alert out for avian flu, each chick is a suspected carrier, each chick could be deadly. *(Story on Page A14.)* REUTERS

Watery attack shows GMA 'going bananas'

By Nestor Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau
Fe Zamora, Juliet Labog-Javellana and Jerome Aning

RELIGIOUS LEADERS ACROSS THE country and administration and opposition senators yesterday expressed shock at the water attack on a church-led protest march near Malacañang. Veteran fighters of martial law denounced it as a fascist act that showed how scared President Macapagal-Arroyo was.

"Uncalled for and objectionable" was how Iloilo Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, the incoming president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, described Friday night's violent dispersal of the procession-cum-protest near Mendiola (Don Chino Roces) Bridge.

Lagdameo is to formally assume the leadership of the influential CBCP on Dec. 1, replacing Davao Archbishop Fernando Capalla.

"The problem is that GMA has not told the whole truth so that is why she is very scared," former opposition Sen. Jovito Salonga told the INQUIRER.

"A prayer rally is a rally that cannot be disposed of like that—with water cannons—without violating the Constitution."

Opposition Sen. Serge Osmeña said the photos on the front pages of the International Herald Tribune and The New York Times showing a former Vice President being treated harshly "will shock foreigners and will drastically affect the investment and tourism image of our country."

"This woman (Ms Arroyo) is going bananas," Osmeña said.

Bishop Julio Labayen, 80, the oldest of the three elderly bishops who joined the protest, said what the authorities did was not just an attack on free speech and assembly, it was also an attack on the right to religion.

Labayen said it was not the first time that he figured in a gathering that was hosed down by the police.

"I was hosed down before in Mendiola ... I was with [pre-martial law Manila Times publisher] Chino Roces. But that

WATERY/ A6

Om's world: Child prodigy, 6, paints from her dreams

By Hazel P. Villa
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—THIS CHILD named after the first sound of the universe could identify primary colors at nine months, was holding a Chinese paintbrush at 11 months, and had done more than 50 simple paintings on bond paper using India ink by the time she was a year old.

When Eouia Aum "Om" Dueñas, second child of Ilonggo artists Guijo and Jyh Ming Dueñas, was five, she held a one-child show of 25 acrylic-on-paper-board paintings measuring two by three feet each. The exhibit, titled "My World," ran on March 22-28 last year at SM City Mall Iloilo.

On Nov. 12-14 also last year, the 5-year-old was the youngest of 20 artists holding a group exhibit for the Sunrise Festival at the CAP Building in Cebu City.

Om's ideas for her paintings often come from her dreams, according to her father.

GUIJO DUEÑAS

PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST as a child of 2 taken by her doting dad

Once, she talked about flying and singing horses, and Guijo told her: "Why don't you paint them?"

The result? "Flying Horse Dream"—a colorful horse standing on three legs, with a rainbow for a tail.

"If I show her what a real horse looks like, she cries out, 'That's not my horse!' And I just let her be," said Guijo, 39, a multiawarded visual artist and photo contributor of the INQUIRER.

Born on March 24, 1999, Om has been a vegetarian since birth and was breast-fed for three years, like her brother John "Blue Heart" Dre, 10.

The Dueñases are devotees of Ananda Marga, and are strict vegetarians and practitioners of yoga.

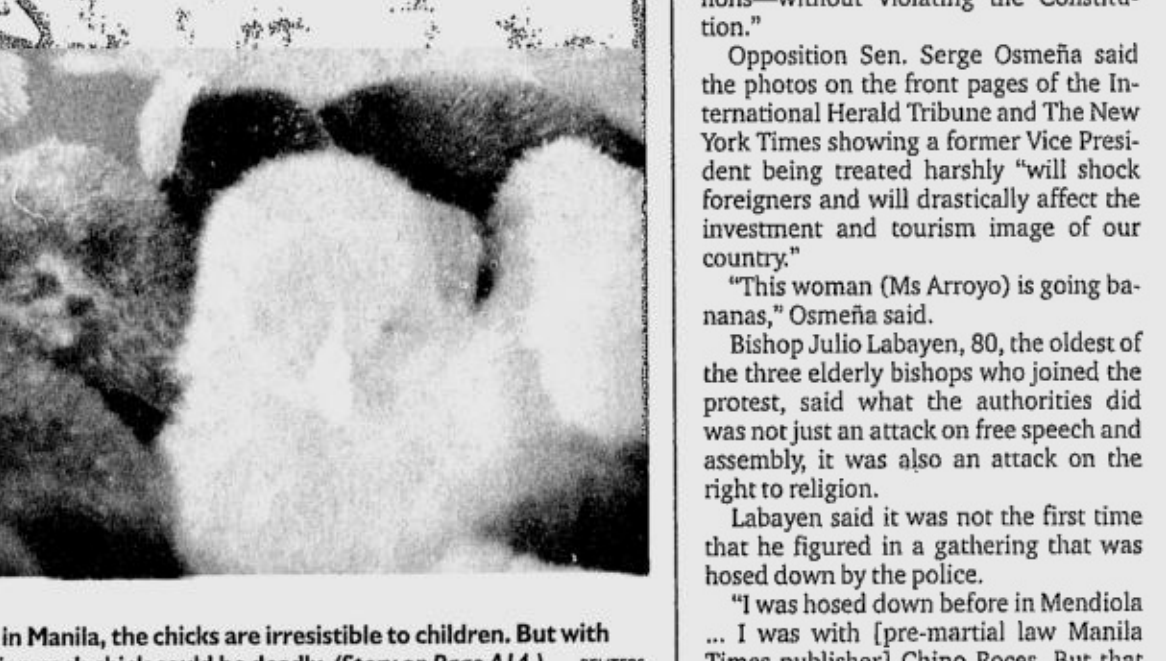
Om goes to the Special Education-Integrated School for Exceptional Children (Sped-Isec) on Luna Street, and Blue Heart, the adjacent Mabini Elementary School.

Guijo said that at the age of 2, Om could identify secondary colors and was using water-based paints.

Using a No. 12 brush, and just having learned to mix primary colors to make secondary ones, Om had finished about 30 oil paintings on canvas in various sizes by the time she was 3.

Some of the paintings are in

OM'S WORLD/ A17



BOLD, HAPPY, MAGICAL strokes create "Tiki, Dinosaur" in acrylic on paper board. Other favored subjects are birds, butterflies, houses, flowers, rainbows, human forms and all other things that delight her. The child artist is due to hold her second solo exhibit of 30 acrylic paintings in Iloilo City. GUIJO DUEÑAS

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Central Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY JAMIE ALARCON, FDLP RESEARCH/10/15/05

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Antiterror on Aussie minister's agenda

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

AUSTRALIAN DEFENSE MINISTER ROBERT Hill is arriving today for a four-day visit to hold talks with Philippine security and defense officials on antiterrorism and other mutual concerns.

During his visit, Hill will meet with President Macapagal-Arroyo and Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz Jr.

"Among the major concerns the two ministers will take up in a roundtable discussion are maritime security, Philippine defense and military reforms, and the war on terrorism," said a statement from the Department of National Defense.

The statement added that Hill's visit would be a "timely opportunity to reaffirm the commitment of both countries to a higher level of defense cooperation."

Hill will be the second major Australian defense official to visit the country this month.

On Thursday, Maj. Gen. Mike Hindmarsh, chief of Australia's special operations command, travelled to Mindanao.

The DND said the Australian defense chief is reciprocating the visit made by Cruz to Canberra last April.

The two met last June during the Shangri-La Defense Dialogue in Singapore.

Hill's visit coincides with news reports that elite Australian troops are involved in actual pursuit operations against Jemaah Islamiyah militants in Mindanao.

Both the Australian foreign ministry and the Armed Forces of the Philippines have denied this.

But the Australian government has admitted that it has deployed some of its antiterrorism policemen in the Philippines to provide technical support to their local counterparts.

The Australian policemen are based in the former US naval base in Subic, Zambales.

Australia has been stepping up security assistance to the Philippines after the two countries signed a defense cooperation agreement in 1995. Canberra has expressed support for the Philippines' military reform and modernization program.

It has also shown concern over the activities of Islamic extremists in Mindanao where foreign militants with ties to the Jemaah Islamiyah and al-Qaida networks are reportedly working with local Muslim rebels.

In 2003, the two countries signed agreements on combatting terrorism and transnational crime.

Philippine and Australian defense experts and planners held a meeting in August on enhancing military cooperation, focusing on how the two countries could contribute to maritime security, building up defense capabilities, military training and education exchanges.

The Philippines and Australia have conducted joint training activities and exercises, such as Exercise Dawn Caracha which involved Special Forces on Counterterrorism, and Exercise Lumbas which involved maritime security exercises between Australian and Philippine Navy vessels.

With AFP, AP reports

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Reds score bounty system

LUCENA CITY – THE Communist Party of the Philippines has protested the government's renewed offer of bounties for the capture of CPP, New People's Army and National Democratic Front leaders.

CPP spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal said the rewards revealed the government's "complete disinterest in pursuing peace negotiations."

"It will only make the resumption of formal peace talks more difficult," Rosal said in a statement.

Philippine National Police Director General Arturo C. Lomibao had recommended revival of the cash reward system for the capture of communist leaders wanted in criminal cases.

The reward system was suspended while peace negotiations were going on between the government and the communists as part of confidence-building measures.

Rosal said that just as in the past, the funds for the "bounty system" would only go to the pockets of ranking military officers.

He also scoffed at the bounty system, saying Malacañang had "wishful hopes" the communist leaders and peace talks consultants would "tremble in fear" and submit to Malacañang's terms in the peace talks.

The rebels suspended the Norwegian-brokered peace talks last year, saying the government had done little to have their organization removed from the terrorist lists of the United States and the European Union. They had also demanded the immediate release of political prisoners.

Rosal said the revolutionary movement could not go along with the terms for the peace talks that were tantamount to surrender to the government.

He said the CPP-NPA and NDF were "genuinely interested" in pursuing the peace talks for as long as the other side was also interested.

The 8,000-strong NPA, which has been waging a revolutionary war since the 1960s, has vowed to intensify their attacks nationwide to force President Macapagal-Arroyo from office.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

General hits 'corruption of soldiers with ideas'

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

FORT DEL PILAR, BAGUIO CITY—ARMY chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. yesterday accused "malicious" elements in civil society of trying to pit the military against the public amid reports about the supposed declaration of a state of emergency.

No such document on the declaration of a state of emergency exists, Esperon stressed.

In his speech during the Philippine Military Academy's recognition rites for PMA "Masiglahi" Class of 2009, Esperon urged cadets to avoid civil society members whose purpose in recent months had been to corrupt soldiers with political ideas.

"The principle of civilian authority over the military, though clearly stipulated in our Constitution, should be [mutually] cherished and respected... by both [the military and the civilians]. The principle of insulation of the Armed Forces from partisan political activities should be recognized and observed both from the inside and the outside [of the institution]," he said.

"From the inside... means members of the AFP should shun or spurn any partisan political activity other than the right to suffrage... [so that] from the outside, the civil society should at the least recognize, or at the most observe the apolitical nature of the military," he said.

Esperon said the military must immediately be removed from the equation whenever a president is expected to be changed, either by elections or extrajudicial means.

"So we can refine [the military's] involvement in electoral processes", the military is supporting legislative efforts to correct election laws, Esperon said here on Saturday.

The martial law years of 1972 to 1981 have changed the public's expectations about the military and these have been corrected by the 1987 Constitution, he said.

Esperon was one of the generals mentioned in the controversial "Hello Garci" tapes which exposed the military's alleged involvement in electoral fraud in the 2004 elections.

In the last 20 years, he said the AFP has "worked hard to transform itself from a highly politicized organization into a professional institution worthy of the people's trust and confidence."

Palparan links execs to anti-GMA plot

By Anselmo Roque and Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

FORT MAGSAYSAY, NUEVA ECIJA—Documents seized recently from a New People's Army camp in Aurora province not only uncovered evidence of planned bombings and destabilization and ouster plots against President Macapagal-Arroyo but also linked some government officials to the alleged plots.

This was revealed by Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan Jr., commander of the Army's 7th Infantry Division, at a discussion with correspondents of the INQUIRER's Northern Luzon Bureau late Friday.

At the meeting, Palparan read aloud from letters allegedly left by the retreating communist rebels which he said gave evidence of the alleged plots.

The guerrilla camp, located at Sitio Alasanay in Barangay Dimanayat, San Luis, Aurora, was overrun by soldiers after an encounter on Sept. 27 and 28.

According to Lt. Col. Ricardo Garcia, the 702nd Infantry Brigade commander, the camp not only had value for the NPA rebels in the province and in Central Luzon.

"Our information showed that it is a national training ground in the country for NPAs [who are deployed] for special operations," Garcia said, judging from the contents of a training manual for making land mines and bombs that was seized from the camp.

He said soldiers found several high-powered firearms, communications equipment, 363 packs of explosives and several documents, including maps and a manual for making bombs.

Palparan read from a letter, dated July 30, which gave evidence of a plot or plots against Ms Arroyo. But he declined to identify the officials and other people named in the letter, saying he would release their names as soon as he got clearance from higher authorities.

The letter appeared to be a computer print-out and bore the logo of the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the NPA.

Palparan said the letter-writer belonged to a "legal organization."

The letter was in Filipino and was addressed to Delfin Pimentel, the secretary general of the NPA's provincial party committee in Aurora, who is also the military chief of the Domingo Erlano Command in the area.

It told of a meeting with another NPA leader who suggested the immediate release of funds to buy the "explosives."

Portions of the letter instructed its recipients to speed up the making of bombs "to hasten the sowing of chaos, disunity, destruction and the ouster of Ms Arroyo from Malacañang and to bring down the US-Arroyo regime."

Palparan said the people mentioned in the letters, including the unnamed government officials, could be ordered arrested as their identities and direct participation in terror activities, destabilization plots and ouster of Ms Arroyo were "clearly indicated" in the documents.

He said another letter indicated that funds were forthcoming and training officers of the NPA unit in Aurora were ready to teach the production and use of bombs to various other NPA units.

"*Ka* [person with alias] and [a government official] have shown to us that the materials for the training in bomb-making and how to use these are ready. You give the go-signal when the training would start for our comrades in various guerrilla fronts," the letter said.

Lt. Col. Joselito Kakilala, commander of the 48th Infantry Battalion that captured the camp, described the seized packs of explosive powder as being similar to C-4, a common variety of military plastic explosive.

"These are not commercially available, raising the likelihood these were imported," he said.

One pack would be enough to blast a strip of road, Kakilala said.

Prices of fuel, LPG up again

ALTHOUGH THE PRICE OF PETROLEUM HAS fallen in the world market, local oil companies increased the prices of premium gasoline products by 50 centavos a liter and liquefied petroleum gas by P1 a kilogram over the weekend.

First to hike unleaded and premium gasoline prices was Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., which posted its new prices at 6 a.m. yesterday. Caltex Philippines Inc. followed at noon for its gasoline and at 6 p.m. for LPG.

Unioil Petroleum Philippines Inc. and Eastern Petroleum Corp. also jacked up gasoline prices at 6 p.m. and at midnight, respectively.

Total (Philippines) Corp. likewise increased the prices of its Protec and Infinity variants and TotalGaz LPG at 12:01 a.m. today.

Flying V will raise prices of premium gasoline products at 12:01 a.m. tomorrow.

With the new adjustments, premium unleaded gasoline now retails at between P35.55 and P36.42 a liter while LPG sells at between P422 and P484 for an 11-kilogram cylinder.

Data from the Department of Energy show that the regional benchmark Dubai crude had already slipped to an average of $54.83 a barrel thus far in October from the September average of $56.54 a barrel.

The price of unleaded gasoline based on the Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS) benchmark for refined petroleum products had also declined significantly to $72 a barrel in the first 13 days of October from a high $79.40 a barrel last month.

Despite the drop in the international prices of crude oil and gasoline, the Department of Energy said local oil firms still had to recover some of their costs from previous world price increases, thus the new hike in retail prices.

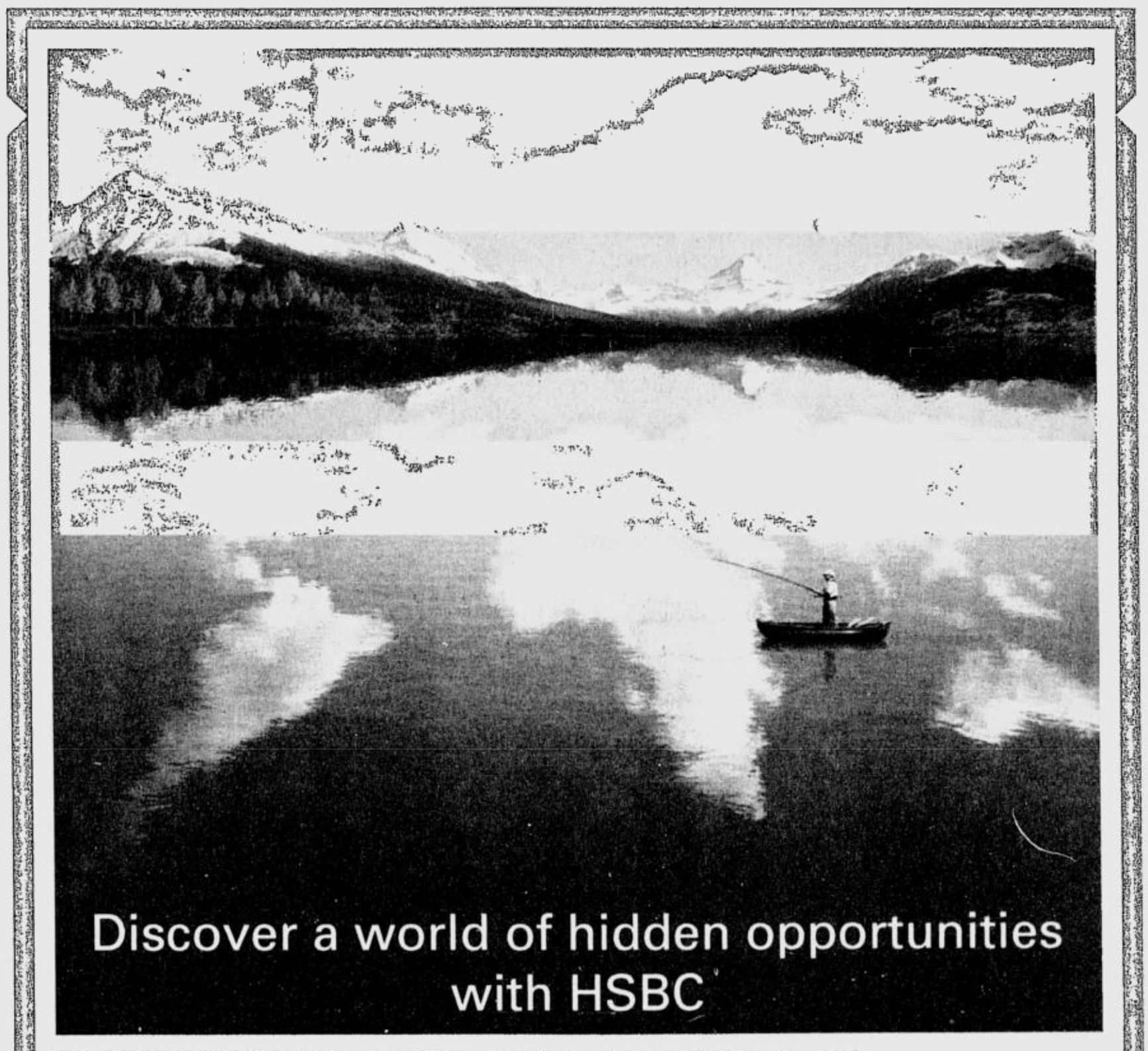
Energy Undersecretary Peter Anthony Abaya had said earlier that price increases for gasoline this month would be "tamer" than in September but the prices of diesel fuel and LPG would likely climb at a steeper rate. This was due to the advent of winter in the western hemisphere.

The price of MOPS-based diesel had actually risen slightly to $79.83 a barrel in the Oct. 1-13 period from the September average of $79.67 a barrel.

The international contract price of liquefied petroleum gas surged to an all-time high of $519 per metric ton (MT) this month, rising by almost $80 from the September price of $440.20 per MT.

Since the start of the year, gasoline prices have increased 21 times by a total of P10.85 a liter, while cooking gas prices have gone up 10 times, or by a total of P7.15 per kilogram.

Abigail L. Ho



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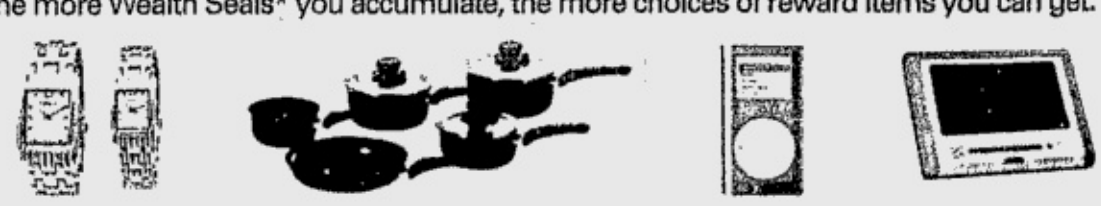
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Bullets as amulets banned at airport

BULLETS ARE NOT ALLOWED at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) – even if they are amulets, the Airport Security Group (ASG) yesterday said.

"We're reminding passengers that they are not allowed to bring bullets, even if they are amulets, on their flights," Supt. Pablo Francisco Balagtas, acting chief of the 1st Police Center for Aviation Security (PCAS), told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

At least eight passengers, including a 5-year-old boy, were found with bullet-amulets in their luggage this month alone at the Naia 1 and Naia Centennial Terminal 2, Balagtas said.

Of the eight, seven were women, five of whom were apprehended on Oct. 7, according to the ASG incident reports.

The boy and his parents were bound for Hawaii.

According to the parents, they went to Ilocos Sur and the boy's grandmother gave the amulet to him," Balagtas said, adding that for "humanitarian reasons," the police decided not to charge the boy or his parents.

Balagtas said most of the passengers explained that the bullets were amulets to protect them from evil spirits. *Nikko Dizon*

Japanese value Filipino students

By Jerome Aning

THE JAPANESE VIEW FILIPINOS who complete their academic studies and training in Japan as valuable additions to their country's human resource pool and willingly provide them gainful employment afterward, a recent study conducted by the Department of Labor and Employment shows.

A paper detailing the results of the study, which was released yesterday, showed that many Filipinos who had gone to Japan on scholarships had stayed on and worked in that country for an average of eight years after completing their studies.

The research, titled "Gateway, Japan; Destination, Home: Work and Life Strategies among Filipino Working Couples in Japan," was conducted by DOLE's Institute of Labor Studies. It surveyed some 30 young Filipino working couples in Japan who were interviewed either at their homes, churches, banks, or as "e-goups."

It showed that most of these couples worked as "dual earning units" engaged in highly skilled work and earned an average of 650,000 yen, or more than P300,000 a month.

However, the paper showed that while these workers may have succeeded in getting jobs and higher pay in Japan, their cultural and psychological needs as a result of being uprooted from the Filipino family-oriented lifestyles they had been accustomed to had not been given enough attention.

"Migrating to Japan could be likened to a stepping stone leading to the proverbial greener pastures, (but) it could not be considered as home even as some aspects of culture, education, acquiring property and retirement benefits could not be had by these migrants," the study said.

The study suggested measures that both the Philippine and Japanese governments may undertake to reinforce the welfare and family well-being of overseas Filipino workers employed in Japan.

These include the provision of daycare and counseling facilities for the workers' children and the easing of visa requirements to facilitate visits by relatives from the Philippines.

The study also recommended the application of international standards relevant to the working conditions of working couples and other migrant workers.

Future policies and scenarios on migration, education and employment of such migrant Filipinos on the part of the sending as well as the host countries should be taken into consideration, the study added.

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Hospital bills piling up for OFW disabled in fall

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

ALAMINOS, PANGASINAN – THE family of a Filipino maid in Jordan who ended up a quadriplegic after a tragic fall wants to bring her home to Barangay Bisocol here.

But the parents of Jennifer Perez, 23, who reportedly fell from a window of her employer's house, must first come up with the money to pay her $26,7004.81 (about P1.5 million) hospital bill.

The bill has to be settled before the hospital in Jordan would release Perez. Her continued stay at the hospital costs $500 to $600 a day, not including the cost of medicines.

Commitments from foreign and local recruiters have amounted to only $6,000.

The Diocese of Alaminos has launched a fund drive to help the Perez family raise the money, said Clarita Fajardo, the president of the Diocesan Pastoral Council here.

"We have been hearing of bad things happening to overseas Filipino workers and then we find out that someone from the city has suffered a similar fate. We really feel bad about it and we want to help by raising funds to help the family," Fajardo said.

The diocese has opened an account (Equitable PCIBank 147313028-5) where donations may be deposited.

An education graduate, Perez went to work as a domestic helper only last July 19 in Irbid, Jordan's second largest city which is about 85 kms from Aman, the capital.

On the evening of July 20, Perez's Jordanian agent received a phone call from her employer telling him that Perez was in the intensive care unit of the Princess Basma Hospital. Perez had reportedly fallen from the second floor of her employer's house.

An Overseas Workers Welfare Administration officer who talked to Perez's employer was told that Perez had resisted when the employer tried to confiscate her cellular phone. She reportedly locked herself in her room and then jumped from the balcony.

Perez ended up with a broken neck and a fractured pelvic bone.

An operation on July 19 was successful, but it left Perez unable to move her arms and legs. She will need mechanical ventilation for the rest of her life.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, October 16, 2005
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **Isaiah 45:1,4-6**

A pagan, instrument of God's plan
Thus says Yahweh to his anointed, to Cyrus:
I have taken you by the right hand
to subdue nations before you
and strip kings of their armor,
to open the gateways before you
so that they will be closed no more.
For the sake of Jacob my servant,
of Israel my chosen one,
I have called you by your name
and given you your mission
although you do not know me.
I am Yahweh, and there is no other;
there is no God besides me.
I armed you when you did not know me,
so that, from the rising
to the setting of the sun,
all may know
that there is no one besides me;
I am Yahweh, and there is no other.

2nd Reading: **1st Thessalonians 1:1-5**

Words of appreciation
From Paul, Sylvanus
and Timothy to the church of Thesalonica which is in God the Father and in Christ Jesus, the Lord.
May the peace and grace of God be with you.
We give thanks to God at all times for you and remember you in our prayers. We constantly recall before God our Father the work of your faith, the labors of your love and your endurance in waiting for Christ Jesus our Lord.
We remember, brothers and sisters, the circumstances of your being called. The gospel we brought you was such not only in words. Miracles, Holy Spirit and plenty of everything were given to you.

Gospel: **Matthew 22:15-21**

Church and state
The Pharisees went out and took counsel on how they could trap Jesus with his own words. They then sent their disciples with the members of Herod's party for this purpose.
They said to Jesus, "Master, we know that you are an honest man and truly teach God's way; you are not influenced by others nor are you afraid of anyone. Tell us, then, what you think: is it against the Law to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"
But Jesus understood their evil intent, and said to them, "Hypocrites! Why are you testing me? Show me the coin with which you pay the taxes."
They showed him a denarius, and Jesus said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose name?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then Jesus replied, "Therefore, return to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."

Commentary

The Pharisees and their hated enemies, the Herodians together take counsel on how to trap Jesus in his own words. First they try to set him up with flattery and then drive home the question they think will trip him up: "is it against the Law to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" If he answers no then the Herodians can accuse him of treason and if he says yes than the Pharisees can use that against him with the people. But Jesus is angered. He asks for a coin (which according to the Law of God, they should not have had in their possession because of the image on it—Caesar who claimed to be god and the coin bore the inscription: Caesar is god.) Jesus is a rabbi and he knows the heritage of the Jewish religion. He asks whose image is on the coin—knowing the echo of those words (whose image are we made in—God's alone). There was a debate earlier that all the Pharisees and others would be aware of—that when a ruler makes coins with his image they are uniform, all the same, but when God makes human beings in his image, no one is like another and each reveals the glory of God. Jesus refuses to be caught in their trap and instead calls them to remember whom they belong to—GOD ALONE. And once you admit honestly to that, then it changes all other choices. They however, do not believe and they have been caught at their own dishonesty and collusion with those who have occupied their country and oppressed them for decades. They do not give God what is due God.

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'They had it coming'

From page A1

protesters will be a major disturbance to the thousands of students who only want to study in peace," said Bunye.

The Manila Police District justified its use of water cannons, saying the march had been infiltrated by hardcore militant groups.

In a statement, MPD Director Pedro Bulaong said the dousing occurred after some protesters "became aggressive and even tried to force their way through the [police] ranks."

Police takes responsibility

"At this juncture, the deputy ground commander had observed the aggressive actions of the rallyists and directed the fire personnel to douse water on the groups to prevent intense confrontation which could further inflict more harm and damage," Bulaong said.

He said the dispersal "was a judgment call of Deputy Ground Commander Supt. Florencio Ortilla due to the persistence of the demonstrators to go further as they continued to provoke the police despite the maximum tolerance that they exercise all throughout the assembly."

The policemen claimed they even saw one of the protesters with a handgun, which had accidentally fallen to the ground.

A breakaway group

Bulaong said some militants also threw stones at the police.

"It was apparent that there was possibly a breakaway group of protesters who tried to sneak through the narrow side streets of San Sebastian with the intention of proceeding to Mendiola and eventually get near Malacañang," he said.

Asked whether heads would roll or sanctions be imposed on those among the police who might be responsible, Bulaong said: "That would depend on the investigation. But for the meantime, Ortilla will no longer be given rally assignments pending the result of the probe."

"The PNP takes responsibility for what happened," Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, spokesperson of the Philippine National Police, said in a statement.

Police surprised

"The use of water cannons was unexpected," he said.

But the PNP offered no apologies.

Bataoil said that an attempt by the "breakaway group" to push toward Mendiola "caught the crowd dispersal management elements by surprise."

Bataoil, quoting an initial report from the Manila police, said the antiriot forces were provoked because of the actions of the protesters.

Gonzalez said the government was within its rights to use water cannons on the protesters.

In a telephone interview, he also accused the religious leaders of allowing themselves to be used by opposition groups out to destabilize the government.

Not defenseless

Asked whether the dispersal was justified, Gonzalez replied: "Yes, of course ... That is what they were trying to do, to test the effectiveness of CPR (calibrated preemptive response policy) and challenge the government. I don't think the government is that defenseless already."

Gonzalez said that if the protesters were just out to pray, they should not have scheduled Masses in churches in Quiapo, San Sebastian and San Beda, which would have given them an excuse to go near the Palace.

"The motive there is very clear and we were not born yesterday," he said.

"Is that to be tolerated? This government is not that naive," he added.

Told that the water blasts on the group that included 80-year-old Bishop Julio Labayen and Bishops Deogracias Iniguez and Antonio Tobias could affect the image of Ms Arroyo as someone close to the Church, Gonzalez took the bishops and church people at the rally to task for "allowing themselves to be used."

Sneezing fireman

He said the presence of opposition leaders and others at the march confirmed that Friday's event was anything but religious.

"We know the motivation," he said, adding that there were limits to people's freedoms, religious leaders included.

In his weekly program over dwIZ radio, Gonzalez also belittled video footage of a fireman holding a water hose and breaking into a sneer before turning the hose on the protesters.

"Yes, we should investigate him. It could be that he had that look because he had wanted to sneeze," Gonzalez joked.

Administration members of the House of Representatives also heaped criticisms on the protesters.

Using religion

"With due respect, the procession was an ill-disguised [anti-Arroyo] activity. The pre-procession activity at Plaza Miranda belies the claim of rallyists that it was mainly a religious procession," Baguio City Rep. Mauricio Domogan said.

Where's sincerity?

"Where is their sincerity when everyone in the procession lambasted the President before they proceeded with the march to Malacañang?" he said.

Bulacan Rep. Lorna Silverio said she received information that the rallyists planned to hold a vigil in the vicinity of Malacañang had they been allowed to proceed toward Mendiola.

"It is lamentable that they are using religion as an excuse to protest against the President," Silverio said. *With Norman Bordadora*

ERIK ARAZAS

TESTING THE WATERS, leaders of the procession-cum-protest rally along Recto Avenue in Manila on Friday are soaked. From left: Sen. Jamby Madrigal, former Rep. Oscar Orbos, Rep. Satur Ocampo, former VP Teofisto Guingona and Fr. Robert Reyes.

Saguisag: Convene parliament of streets

ONE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYERS who fought Ferdinand Marcos yesterday defended the right of Filipinos to hold protests on historic Mendiola (Don Chino Roces) Bridge.

"The PNP (Philippine National Police) should not prevent anyone from accessing Mendiola's bridge named after [pre-martial law Manila Times publisher] Chino Roces, water-hosed there and memorialized in a lasting tableau that partly led to a hated regime's demise," former Sen. Rene Saguisag said.

Saguisag slammed the police for their forcible dispersal on Friday of church-led demonstrators calling for the resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Saguisag, who now lawyers for deposed President Joseph Estrada, said he was in the Mendiola area on his way to San Beda College where he is a professor, when the dispersal occurred.

"As Ka Pepe Diokno [the late nationalist leader Jose W. Diokno] urged, we must confront a spurious leader with his or her illegitimacy at every turn," he said in a statement.

"I am a faded street parliamentarian. But with the House [of Representatives], along with other institutions, co-opted and bribed, and the Senate under siege, yes, we may again have to convene and call to order the parliament of the streets."

'GMA has no more decency left'

THE SON OF A FORMER VICE president whom antiriot police drenched with water during a violent dispersal of a Church-led march near Malacañang said yesterday the incident showed President Macapagal-Arroyo had lost her sense of decency in her desire for political survival.

"The hosing that my father Tito Guingona received in yesterday's rally is proof that GMA has no more decency left," Bukidnon Rep. Teofisto Guingona III said. "She will do everything and anything just to cling on to power. She will step on anyone regardless of who he or she is."

"There are no warm friendships nor serious alliances with this woman, only frigid temporary alliances of convenience," the younger Guingona added.

In friendlier times, Ms Arroyo had named the elder Guingona as her vice president and foreign affairs secretary after she was catapulted to power by Edsa II in January 2001.

Norman Bordadora

Watery attack shows GMA going bananas—Osmeña

From page A1

was way back during martial law," Labayen said.

At the National Council of Churches of the Philippines offices in Quezon City, Labayen joined Catholic and Protestant leaders in calling on Ms Arroyo to resign.

"We are one with our Catholic brethren ... We condemn this act," said Bishop Elmer Bolocon, vice chair of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines.

In a statement, the Inter-Faith Movement for Truth, Justice and Genuine Change said the people were entitled to hold a rally "against a fraudulent president."

Administration Sen. Joker Arroyo said Malacañang was right in drawing the line on protesters, "but your response should be a reasonable response to the threat ... The dispersal was not a reasonable response ... It was a fascist response."

Arroyo warned: "What happened will radicalize a number of people."

Both Salonga and Arroyo were at the forefront of the fight against martial law abuses during the rule of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, speaking through his media liaison officer, said he was saddened by the use of violence in the dispersal.

The sharp reactions were spurred by the use by the police of water cannons to break up an otherwise peaceful march near Malacañang Palace by hundreds of protesters, including former Vice President Teofisto Guingona, three elderly Roman Catholic bishops, dozens of nuns and priests, opposition politicians and leftwing militants.

In his statement, Archbishop Lagdameo said:

"The prayer assembly and rosary procession that was held in Manila was part of a crusade by civil society for truth, honesty, credibility and integrity in government. It was a crusade for good governance which is sadly lacking and very much needed in economic progress. If the people do not believe in their leaders, how can they govern and bring about genuine progress in the economy?"

Lagdameo added: "The presence of three bishops, of some sisters and priests there was for the prayer assembly and for a peaceful procession to San Sebastian Church. It was a patriotic manifestation of concern for our country."

The incoming CBCP head said: "Because it was a prayer assembly and peaceful procession, the violent dispersal of the participants was uncalled for and objectionable. The legality of the calibrated preemptive response must be questioned before the appropriate court."

Senators angry

The so-called CPR is a government policy disallowing protest rallies unless backed by official permits.

Administration and opposition senators joined hands in condemning the police action.

"The incident is deplorable," Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan said.

He urged Malacañang to withdraw its CPR policy before protest rallies became more violent.

Administration Sen. Ralph Recto advised the government that the "best rally policy is still the '*deadma*' (just ignore them) policy."

"Hosing down demonstrators will not douse water on their passions. On the contrary, like water to plants, it is these acts that nurture more demonstrations," Recto said.

"History has shown that water you use to disperse citizens has an uncanny way of returning as a tidal wave of unpopular anger," Recto added.

Opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson said the police reaction to the march was totally unnecessary.

"What's dangerous is that the paranoia of the Palace now filters down to those who are mandated to protect the people," Lacson said.

Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. denounced the administration's "vile policy of using brute force to clamp down" on protests.

'Unbelievable'

"Hosing down Sen. Jamby Madrigal, former Vice President Tito Guingona, the bishops, priests, nuns and concerned citizens, provokes the people's patience to breaking point. Gloria and her minions will rue this day," Pimentel said.

Madrigal said she would file a case of human rights abuse against the Arroyo administration before the United Nations Commission on Human Rights for the "unbelievable" incident.

Investigate

Church and civil society officials in Eastern Visayas also expressed their shock and condemnation.

Fr. Nicolas Valeriano of the Palo Diocese, in Leyte, denounced the dispersal of a "religious activity."

"I was really saddened and shocked ... I call on our government authorities to conduct an immediate investigation and punish those responsible," Valeriano said.

GMA to blame

Lawyer Democrito Barcenas, the immediate past president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines-Cebu City chapter, said the dispersal was a gross violation of the rights of free speech and peaceful assembly.

"She [Ms Arroyo] is now becoming insecure because she knows that majority of the people want her to step down or be ousted," he said.

House Minority Leader Francis Escudero, speaking in Iloilo City, said opposition leaders were not afraid of being arrested if Ms Arroyo declared emergency rule.

Labayen said he bore the policemen no ill will.

"The police were only following orders. We don't have rancor at the police. We have rancor at those who gave the orders and that is none other than the government of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo," Labayen said. *With Norman Bordadora*

Tree doctors rush to save lives of critical 'patients'

From page A1

doctors to perform surgery on ailing trees, do a facelift on Edsa, and build a "lung" of mini-forest parks where city slickers can breathe.

Touted as one of the world's most polluted urban centers with over 10 million residents, the metropolis is an emergency case.

"It is hard for trees to survive in Metro Manila," said forester Carlos P. Basilio.

"Usually, trees live only half of their natural lives when planted here, so Metro Manila needs doctors. We're here to restore and prolong the lives of trees," he said.

'Oplan Sagip Puno'

Basilio, 56, has been a forester for 23 years. But he started serving as a tree doctor four years ago, when the government first launched its "Oplan Sagip Puno" project and trained foresters in the craft of "treating trees."

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources recently relaunched Oplan Sagip Puno to save trees that were infested with disease as well as those that would be affected by road projects or that the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority deemed inappropriate on busy streets.

"This project will pave the way [for] the realization of a Metro Manila transformed from ... a polluted city into a healthy garden metropolis, and serve as a model for all urban centers in the Philippines," the DENR said in its project description.

Tandang Sora's tree

Trees with historical significance are also being considered for preservation, which is the case of Basilio's favorite "patient."

Last year, the DENR team performed surgery on the Duhat ni Tandang Sora, a centuries-old duhat tree on the Metro Manila College campus in Novaliches, Quezon City.

With three huge cavities in its trunk, the duhat tree—said to be the favorite of the 19th-century heroine Tandang Sora (Melchora Aquino) to seek shade and contemplate under—would have died without the operation.

"There were cavities through and through, and it was starting to grow roots inside ... We worked on it, and now it's getting better. It's a pretty sight to look at again," Basilio said.

Armed with chain saw, chisel, toning saw, cement and sand, the DENR's tree doctors roam the metropolis, working on roadsides and in villages to perform surgery, some of which could take up to five days.

Tree surgery entails cleaning to remove all decayed portions, spraying of medicines, painting of coal tar on the affected areas, and finally cementing the wound.

"The scars will heal gradually, and the bark will regenerate, so that it's like new again," Basilio said.

Lungs for the metro

Carlos Gubat Jr., a forester for 37 years and now chief of the DENR-NCR urban forestry division, is another tree doctor who has his hands full creating "lungs" for Metro Manila.

These lungs—areas of at least 5,000 square meters planted to full-grown trees that are about five meters tall—are the 21 miniforest parks scattered in the metropolis' 17 cities and municipalities.

"In the provinces, you plant usually for reforestation. Urban forestry is mostly for aesthetics and for clean air," Gubat said.

Studies show that a full-grown tree can absorb 26 pounds of carbon per year, equivalent to the carbon emission of a car on an 11,300-mile trip.

In Metro Manila, where 70 percent of air pollution is caused by mobile sources or smoke-belching vehicles, a mini-forest park would have mega-benefits.

"All you need to do is stand outside for several minutes, and you'll know how badly we need these forests in Metro Manila ... We need lungs for this city," Gubat said.

Parks and gardens

Besides the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife, the biggest mini-forest park in the National Capital Region is found in the Civil Service Commission area in Batasan, Quezon City, which covers about three hectares.

The DENR's National Ecology Center on East Avenue has 130 dipterocarp seedlings planted in the area, mostly endemic species like the white lauan, palosapis and yakal.

The DENR-NCR's urban forestry has partnered with at least 20 subdivisions, schools and clubs who want to create mini-forest parks in their available spaces.

It also gives free seedlings to residents who want to plant trees in their open spaces.

The tree doctors, who are turning to endemic species from the exotic ones being promoted by the government for decades, launched a theme garden at the Quezon Memorial Circle two weeks ago.

The garden showcases 34 endemic and indigenous tree species like kamagong, laua-an and gakakan, a species found only in the Batanes and Babuyan islands.

Spectrum of colors

The tree doctors are not only greening Metro Manila. From the previous concept of urban greening, the government is literally moving to a spectrum of colors.

Gubat said the DENR had embarked on planting flowering trees to paint a livelier picture of the polluted urban center.

To bring out the color fuchsia, the DENR will plant Palawan cherry; for the color yellow, the Golden Shower; for red, the fire tree, and for violet, the banaba tree.

Green, naturally, will be the staple.

"We want Metro Manila to be colorful, so we have not just healthy but also beautiful surroundings," Gubat said.

And the tree doctors are taking that principle to the streets. Equipped with ornamental plants in bright orange clay pots, they have invaded Edsa as well.

Last August, the DENR embarked on its Edsa Enhancement project, a beautification drive meant to give eight kilometers of the major thoroughfare—and the most polluted strip in Metro Manila—a facelift.

By Gubat's account, his team has planted palm trees at the Ayala-Edsa junction and placed potted plants on center islands where planting is not possible, such as the Ayala-Buendia and Buendia-Rockwell strips.

"We're proud of what we do. It feels good to know you are preserving a life," Basilio said, referring to the metro's trees.

With 10 million people breathing the oxygen from these trees, the tree doctors could be providing the most urgent treatment ever.

Yankee traders up on Davao

DAVAO CITY – THE United States is bullish about the economic outlook of Davao and the rest of Mindanao, according to an American diplomat.

Brent Omdahl, the US commercial attaché, said the participation of 10 US multinational companies in Davao Trade Expo 2005 underscored the growing interest of US businesses in Davao.

Omdahl, who was interviewed at the opening of the three-day DATE 2005 here on Friday, said US companies recently poured $18 million in investments into the city.

He noted Davao's $1.3 billion earnings so far this year, which was 20 percent more over the same period last year.

DATE 2005, which ends today, is the 7th trade exposition to be initiated by the Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCCII). Expo visitors were expected to reach 3,000 a day.

The theme of this year's exposition, "We Mean Global Business," indicates DATE's determination to "go global," Simeon Marfori, DCCCII executive vice president and the trade expo chair.

One of the featured events was a seminar on doing business in the United States. *Judy Quiros, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

2 nabbed in Cebu for software piracy

By Jolene R. Bulambot
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY – AGENTS OF THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation arrested an American national and his Filipino cohort for allegedly selling and distributing over P9 million worth of pirated and fake Microsoft software.

Kevin Wyane Cunningham and Rommel Ocarisa were arrested during an entrapment operation Thursday night in Barangay Lorega, Cebu City.

The NBI agents confiscated from the suspects more than 100 compact discs containing Microsoft software.

Cunningham and Ocarisa were charged on Friday with estafa, trademark infringement, unfair competition and copyright infringement under the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines before the city prosecutor's office.

Both suspects signed a waiver of detention during the inquest proceeding on Friday, prompting Assistant City Prosecutor Alexander Acosta to conduct a preliminary investigation of the cases instead of elevating them to the regional trial court.

Cunningham and Ocarisa declined to be interviewed.

Merdado de Lemos, NBI director for Central Visayas, said the pirated software were valued at P9 million.

De Lemos said his men were also investigating other "personalities" in Cebu suspected of being Cunningham's cohorts. He declined to identify them.

The two were arrested after the NBI received a complaint from officials of the Cebu-based Thrust Enterprises and Industrial Sales on Oct. 13, alleging that Cunningham and Ocarisa sold them fake Windows XP Home Ed and Windows XP PRO software.

Thrust Enterprises and Industrial Sales is engaged in the sale of industrial and information technology-related products.

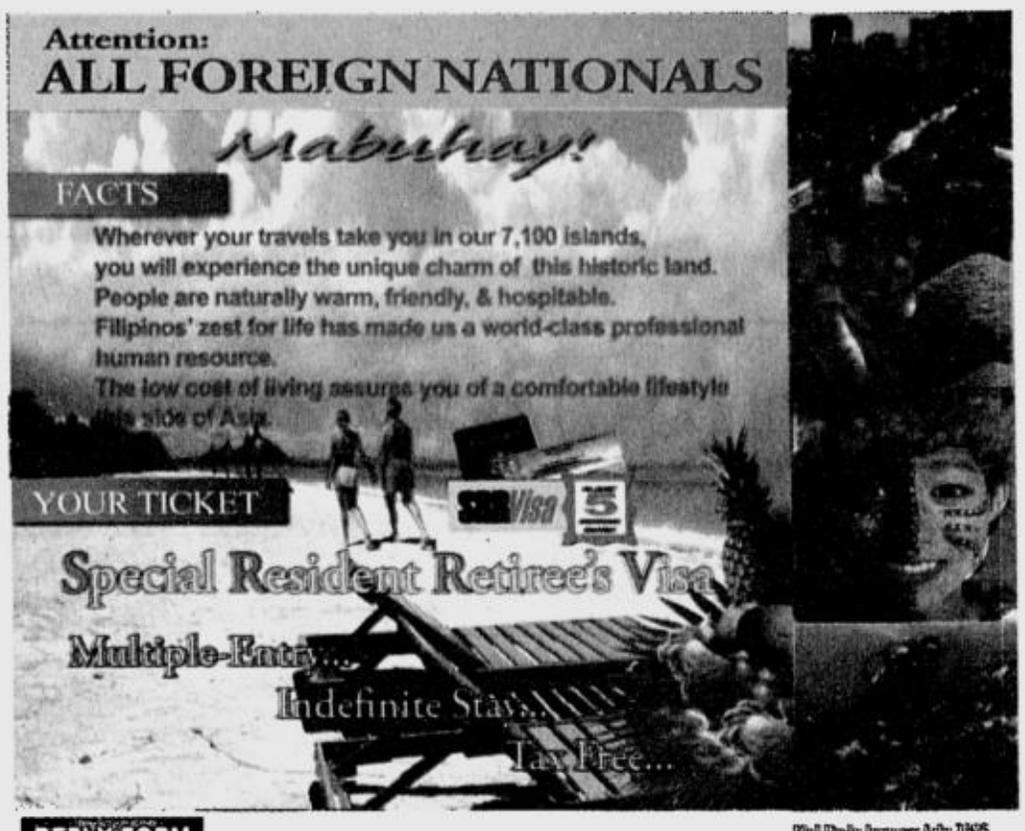
In their complaint, Rubico Besario Jr. and Jezzamine Daclison, operations manager and marketing manager of Thrust Enterprises, respectively, said that Cunningham presented himself as an authorized representative of JJC Trading Inc. based in Seattle, Washington. He arrived in the Philippines on Aug. 21, 2005.

Cunnigham allegedly claimed that JJC was authorized by Microsoft to sell and distribute Microsoft software.

Cunningham and his partner had been supplying the pirated software to Thrust Enterprises since September.

But on Oct. 3, the complainants said their customers returned the compact disc containing Window XP Home Ed because the software could not be installed as the product key attached to it was "invalid."

The complainants claimed they incurred at least P6 million in losses and damages as a result of Cunningham's alleged fraudulent activities.



Philippine Daily Inquirer July 2005

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NPTE		5 5PM	13 5PM	10/3	10/3	
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					T.P. 11/19	T.P. 11/19
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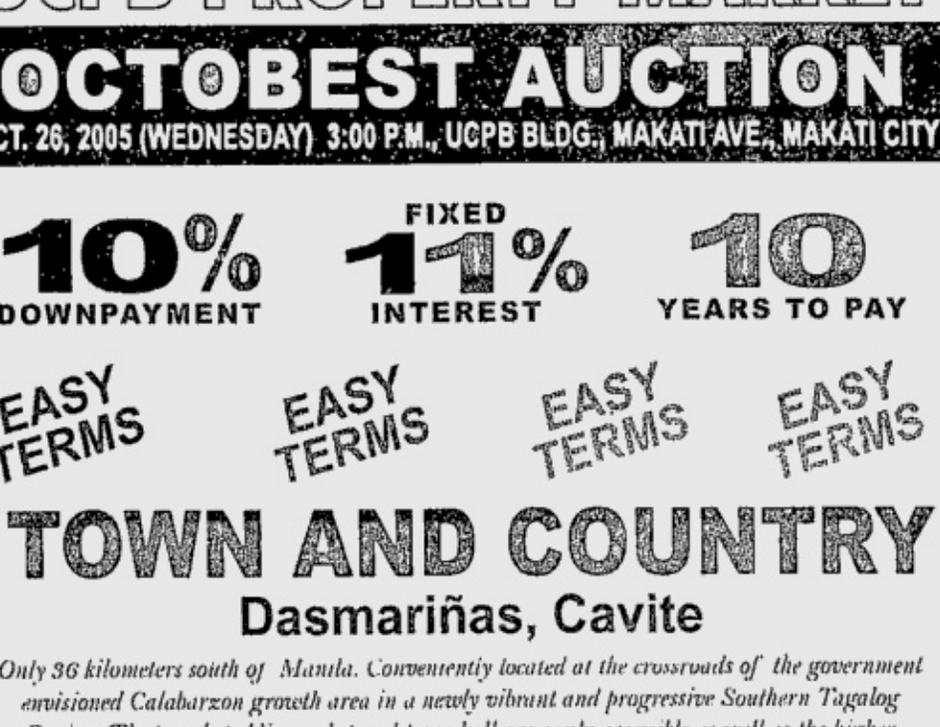

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The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Iraqis vote on landmark constitution

BAGHDAD—IRAQIS HEADED TO THE POLLS IN a historic referendum on Saturday, with up to 15 million eligible voters deciding on a controversial new post-Saddam Hussein constitution that its backers hope will unite the torn country.

Amid intense security, including a ban on all traffic, voters flowed on foot to polling stations across Baghdad as they opened at 7 a.m. They are due to close at 5 p.m., unless attacks cause delays and some are kept open longer.

In Hilla to the south of the capital, Fallujah to the west and Kirkuk to the north, polling sites received a steady stream of voters, many enthusiastically saying "Yes" to the draft constitution and some others just as determinedly voting "No."

In Baghdad's fortified Green Zone compound, where the Iraqi government is headquartered, President Jalal Talabani and Prime Minister Ibrahim Jaafari were two of the first to cast ballots.

"I voted 'Yes' and I urge all Iraqis, no matter their different ethnicities and religions ... to vote 'Yes' to the constitution," Talabani, a Kurd, told reporters.

The Kurdish and Shiite-led government strongly backs the constitution, which it was largely responsible for drafting.

The charter will be ratified if more than half of voters say "Yes," and as long as two thirds of voters in three of Iraq's 18 provinces do not say "No."

Prospects of a blocking "No" vote receded in recent days when one of the country's main Sunni Muslim parties threw its support behind the constitution after Shiite and Kurdish leaders agreed to consider amendments next year.

However, most Sunni Arabs, who make up about 20 percent of the 27 million population, are believed to oppose the charter and the "No" vote is expected to dominate in their areas. In an election in January, most Sunni Arabs boycotted the vote.

In Fallujah, a predominantly Sunni city that was until late last year a bastion of the Sunni Arab insurgency, Mohammed Jabber, a 35-year-old laborer, said he was intent on voting after deciding boycotting January's poll was a mistake.

"I came here to say 'No' to the referendum and to avoid the strategic error we made last time," he said. "This time we must participate in a big way and restore balance to Iraq, a balance that has been lacking since the previous election."

Others in Fallujah and in areas of Kirkuk, where ethnic Turkmen oppose the constitution, also said they were voting "No." But Talabani said he did not think the veto would succeed.

While January's election marked a particular watershed for Iraq after 30 years of dictatorship, Saturday was also the first opportunity for people to vote in a free referendum in decades.

The last plebiscite was held almost exactly three years ago, under Saddam's rule, and it renewed his leadership for seven more years in a vote his regime said was 100 percent positive.

Ahead of Saturday's vote, those in Baghdad and towns to the north spent a hot night without electricity after a sabotage attack on power lines blacked out the capital—not in itself unusual, but a discomfiting reminder of the militants' reach.

Insurgents, who have threatened widespread violence during the referendum, tried to carry through on that pledge.

Three Iraqi soldiers were killed by a roadside bomb northeast of Baghdad, three other bombs hit police in Baghdad, wounding one, and gunmen fired on some polling sites overnight, but overall security appeared to be holding.

Hussein Hendawi, the head of the electoral commission which is managing the vote, said things were going well and that he thought results could come as early as Sunday evening or Monday.

More than 100,000 Iraqi police and soldiers will protect more than 6,000 polling stations, with US and other foreign troops ready to help out should insurgents attack. *Reuters*

Quake death toll nears 40,000; rain adds to misery of survivors

MUZAFFARABAD, PAKISTAN—THE DEATH toll in Pakistan's devastating earthquake rose to nearly 40,000 on Saturday, while rains and cold compounded the misery of millions of homeless victims and briefly grounded relief flights a week after the disaster.

Thunderstorms and a cold wave were forecast for the next two days, which could disrupt efforts to help an estimated two million people lacking shelter ahead of the harsh Himalayan winter. Downpours earlier in the week grounded helicopters and stopped trucks loaded with relief supplies.

Army spokesperson Maj. Gen. Shaukat Sultan said the death toll from the Oct. 8 temblor had risen to 38,000 with 62,000 others injured. More than 1,350 other people have died in neighboring India.

The official toll previously stood at 25,000, but according to Army sources, rose sharply because more bodies have been pulled from the rubble of fallen buildings in recent days. Senior officials had already privately estimated that between 35,000 and 40,000 were dead.

At 8:51 a.m., thousands of Muslims gathered at Islamabad's towering Faisal mosque for special prayers for the dead—exactly a week after the temblor.

Prayer leader Qari Nauman Ahmad urged people to donate what they could to quake victims and seek God's forgiveness, saying continuing aftershocks were a sign that God was not happy.

Early Saturday, a magnitude-5 aftershock struck the quake-hit zone, but there were no immediate reports of damage or further injury. There have been more than 500 aftershocks over the past week.

Rescue workers abandoned the official search Friday for survivors trapped in the rubble, though individual efforts continued, with an 18-month-old girl reportedly pulled out alive from the ruins of her home.

A doctor, Mazhar Hussain, told GEO television and the British Broadcasting Corp. that his rescue team had pulled the toddler, unconscious but alive, from under the door of her collapsed house, which had protected her. Her mother and two brothers were found dead nearby, but her father survived.

"Her right hand is broken and she has a fracture in her left leg," the doctor said on GEO, speaking from Balimang in North-West Frontier Province, where the girl was found.

Four helicopters, two from the International Red Cross and two from the Pakistan Army, landed in the devastated Kashmiri city of Muzaffarabad on Saturday morning, and another army spokesperson Maj. Farooq Nasir said the relief operation was on but could change with the weather.

More delays could be catastrophic. Seven days after the magnitude-7.6 quake, many outlying villages have still seen no aid. Unicef warned that thousands of children are at risk of death from cold, malnutrition and disease.

Jan Egeland, the UN undersecretary-general and emergency relief coordinator, said he feared bottlenecks of relief supplies.

"If we don't work together, we will become a disaster within a disaster," he said. He said it would take billions of dollars and "five to 10 years" to rebuild.

Gary Walker, spokesperson for Plan, a humanitarian organization working around the northern town of Balakot, estimated that about 100,000 people in at least 50 surrounding communities urgently needed shelter. He said some donated tents were leaking and distribution was the main problem.

"We haven't even gone up in the mountains yet," Walker said. *AP*

ABIDA Parveen (right), 8 years old, and her brother Mohammad Saud, 5 years old, wait at a temporary shelter near a makeshift hospital in Muzaffarabad, Oct. 15, in Pakistan Kashmir, after losing their mother as a result of the quake. One week after the 7.6 magnitude earthquake rocked this mountainous region of South Asia, up to 2.5 million people are homeless and tens of thousands of quake survivors are in need of medical aid and food supplies. AFP

Some of the world's worst natural disasters

THE DEATH TOLL FROM LAST week's Kashmir earthquake now stands at 38,000 in Pakistan, a military spokesperson said on Saturday.

The Oct. 8 earthquake also killed about 1,300 people in India.

Following is a list of some of the worst earthquakes, floods and other natural disasters on record. In some of the earlier dates the number of deaths is estimated:

LOCATION	DEATHS	DATE
China, Yellow River	1 million	1887—flood
China, Shaansi	830,000	1737—quake
India, Calcutta	300,000	1970—cyclone
East Pakistan (Bangladesh)	300,000	1976—quake
China, Tangshan	255,000	1138—quake
Syria, Aleppo	230,000	2004—quake/tsunami
Indonesia, Sumatra	226,566	1920—quake
China, Gansu	200,000	c.893—quake
Iran, Ardabil	150,000	1923—quake

Wrong medicine killed Bruce Lee, says producer

BRUCE Lee in 1973 photo AP

HONG KONG—BRUCE LEE'S FORMER PRODucer, Raymond Chow, says the kung fu star's sudden death at age 32 is a straightforward case of taking the wrong medicine.

Lee died of an edema, or swelling of the brain, in the home of Hong Kong actress Betty Ting Pei in 1973. The coroner described his passing as "death by misadventure."

The circumstances of Lee's death fueled speculation that drugs were involved and Lee was having an affair with Ting.

Chow, one of the founders of Golden Harvest studios, said Lee died because he took headache medication that he was "hypersensitive" to at someone else's home, refraining from referring to Ting directly.

He said Lee was sensitive to one of the three ingredients in the medication, equigesic.

"The bottom line is it was an accident," Chow said during a recent interview.

Chow, who said he shared Lee's Chinese nationalism, explained he was personally devastated by Lee's death, which led to him putting "Game of Death," Lee's last movie, on hold.

"I didn't think about other things like the company or career affairs. At the time the most important thing is that I felt I lost a very, very good friend," Chow recalled. *AP*

2005 may be 2nd or 3rd hottest year, says Met Office

LONDON—2005 WILL BE THE second or third warmest year on record globally, Britain's national weather service said on Friday, as climate concerns build among people in polar and low-lying areas and in the insurance and utility industries.

"Whether it is second or third depends on how Siberia reacts between now and the end of the year," said Wayne Elliott, Met Office spokesperson.

"1998 was the warmest ever, 2005 is looking at being second.

It will be another very warm year generally, which is in line with global climate change research."

The Met Office bases its measurements on both land and sea temperatures.

After 1998, the four hottest years globally were the last four years, according to Met Office data going back to 1861. The second hottest year was 2002, followed by 2003, 2004 and 2001. *Reuters*

Bad manners becoming a hallmark of American society

By Donna Cassata

WASHINGTON—AMERICANS' fast-paced, high-tech existence has taken a toll on the civil in society.

From road rage in the morning commute to high decibel cellphone conversations that ruin dinner out, men and women behaving badly has become the hallmark of a hurry-up world. An increasing informality—flip-flops at the White House, even—combined with self-absorbed communication gadgets and a demand for instant gratification have strained common courtesies to the breaking point.

"All of these things lead to a world with more stress, more chances for people to be rude to each other," said Peter Post, a descendent of etiquette expert Emily Post and an instructor on business manners through the Emily Post Institute in Burlington, Vermont.

In some cases, the harried single parent has replaced the traditional nuclear family and there's little time to teach the basics of polite living, let alone how to hold a knife and fork, according to Post.

A slippage in manners is obvious to many Americans. Nearly 70 percent questioned in an Associated Press-Ipsos poll said people are ruder than they were 20 or 30 years ago. The trend is noticed in large and small places alike, although more urban people report bad manners, 74 percent, than do people in rural areas, 67 percent.

Peggy Newfield, founder and president of Personal Best, said the generation that came of age in the times-a-changin' 1960s and 1970s are now parents who do not stress the importance of manners, such as opening a door for a female.

So it was no surprise to Newfield that those children wouldn't understand how impolite it was to wear flip-flops to a White House meeting with the president—as some members of the Northwestern women's lacrosse team did in the summer.

A whopping 93 percent in the AP-Ipsos poll faulted parents for failing to teach their children well.

"Parents are very much to blame," said Newfield, whose Atlanta-based company started teaching etiquette to young people and now focuses on corporate employees. "And the media."

Sulking athletes and boorish celebrities grab the headlines while television and Hollywood often glorify crude behavior.

"It's not like the old shows 'Father Knows Best,'" said Norm Demers, 47, of Sutton, Massachusetts. "People just copy it. How do you change it?" Demers would like to see more family friendly television but isn't holding his breath.

Nearly everyone has a story of the rude or the crude, but fewer are willing to admit to boorish behavior themselves.

Only 13 percent in the poll [illegible] obscene gesture while driving; only 8 percent said they had used their cell phones in a loud or annoying manner around others. But 37 percent in the survey of 1,001 adults questioned Aug. 22-23 said they had used a swear word in public.

Yvette Sienkiewicz, 41, a claims adjustor from Wilmington, Delaware, recalled in frustration how a bigger boy cut in front of her 8-year-old son as he waited in line to play a game at the local Chuck E. Cheese pizza restaurant.

"It wasn't my thing to say something to the little boy," said Sienkiewicz, who remembered that the adult accompanying the child never acknowledged what he had done. In the AP-Ipsos poll, 38 percent said they have asked someone to stop behaving rudely.

More and more, manners are taught less and less.

Carole Krohn, 71, a retired school bus driver in Deer Park, Washington, [illegible] children's behavior deteriorate over the years, including one time when a boy tossed a snowball at the back of another driver's head. In this litigious society, she argued, a grown-up risks trouble correcting someone else's kid.

One solution for bad behavior "is to put a kid off in the middle of the road. Nowadays all people want to do is sue, to say you're to blame, get you fired," Krohn said.

Krohn, who often greeted students by name and with a hearty "good morning," once was asked by a child if she got tired of offering pleasantries.

Sienkiewicz, whose job requires hours in a car, said she tries to avoid rush-hour traffic because of drivers with a me-first attitude. The most common complaint about rudeness in the poll was aggressive or reckless driving, with 91 percent citing it as the most frequent discourtesy.

Margaret Hahn-Dupont, a 39-year-old law professor from Oradell, New Jersey, noticed that some of her students showed little respect for authority and felt free to express their discontent and demand better grades.

Close on the heels of the baby boomers are the affluent teens and young adults who have known nothing but the conveniences of computers and cell phones, devices that take them away from face-to-face encounters and can be downright annoying in a crowd.

"They got a lot of things and feel entitled to get a lot of things," said Hahn-Dupont.

Bernard F. Scanlon, 79, of Sayville, New York, would like to see one railroad car set aside for cell phone users to ensure peace and quiet for the rest. Amtrak has taken a stab at that by banning cell phones and other loud devices in one car of some trains, especially on chatty Northeast and West Coast routes.

But if those trains are sold out, the Quiet Car service is suspended and anything goes. *AP*

US disasters bill questioned

NEW YORK—AMONG THE GOVERNMENT'S expenditures for hurricane relief last month was $223,000 for flip-flop sandals, three golf carts rented for $1,500 a month and playing cards, The New York Times reported on Saturday.

The newspaper, basing its report on information provided by the Federal Emergency Management Administration and other federal agencies, said that most of the government's estimated $150 billion bill for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita was for disaster aid checks to thousands of victims and gargantuan contracts for debris removal and housing.

But hordes of government workers armed with government credit cards descended upon the region, making a vast number of smaller purchases and often paying retail or even higher prices, the Times said.

Among the charges: $66,632.37 for a single sale at a Wal-Mart store in La Place, La.; $129,568.40 spent in 195 trips to Home Depot outlets by FEMA workers, with a least one case of a transaction that appeared to have been split up to avoid a cap of $250,000 on credit card purchases.

The records also provide no way of knowing whether the items bought were necessary or even used, the newspaper said.

But purchases such as the EPA's buy of more than $2,000 worth of CamelBak backpack water containers, instead of regular plastic bottles, raised questions about a federal spending spree.

Other high expenses included a portable shower unit with 24 shower heads, supported by water trucks and a six-member team to keep it open 24 hours a day, which ended up costing $8,000 to $10,000 a day. *Reuters*

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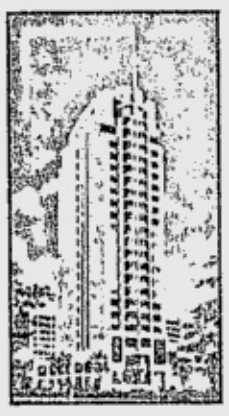

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Pinoy m-commerce pioneers Joey Mendoza, president of G-Xchange, Inc., and Rodell Garcia, Globe Telecom chief information officer, formally open the Globe G-Cash Firsts exhibit.

Celebrating a year of GLOBE GCASH firsts

Pinoys empowered by M-commerce innovation

From the onset, Globe G-Cash was envisioned as an integrated mobile payments system with applications that encompassed the various needs and concerns of Filipinos all over the world. A year since its introduction, the first wireless, cashless and cardless payments service in the country has made the convenience and reliability of m-commerce a reality for the millions of Filipinos nationwide for whom mobile phones are an indispensable part of daily life!

G-Cash becomes more pervasive with a growing list of partners

In its first year, G-Cash has extended its menu of services from purchase payments, phone-to-phone transfer of cash values and domestic and international remittance to include a wider range of m-commerce applications covering an ever-growing network of trusted partners with broader worldwide coverage and international remittance outlets in 15 countries. G-Cash also enables bill payments for 17 utility companies and service providers, as well as mobile tuition fee payments in 200 campuses across the country. These services are especially useful for OFW families, who can now conveniently allocate their received remittances for various household bills, including basic necessities like food, medicine and school supplies. G-Cash has also expanded its partnership with retail giant SM Shoemart Inc. to include mobile payments in SM Megamall Department Store and online purchases at www.smappliance.com.

G-Cash pioneers mobile micro-credit applications

Recognizing the lack of micro-financing opportunities for the lower-income bracket, G-Cash has forged strategic alliances with grassroots institutions to pioneer micro-credit applications in the Philippines, with the recently concluded pilot program of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines and the USAID-funded Microenterprise Access to Banking Services Program, and recent partnerships with National Confederation of Cooperatives, Inc. (NATCCO) and Philippine Federation of Credit Cooperatives (PFCCO), which expands the G-Cash ecosystem in the countryside. The service's microloan functionality enables these organizations to utilize G-Cash as a means of loan installments and payments, while providing additional livelihood programs for their member cooperatives.

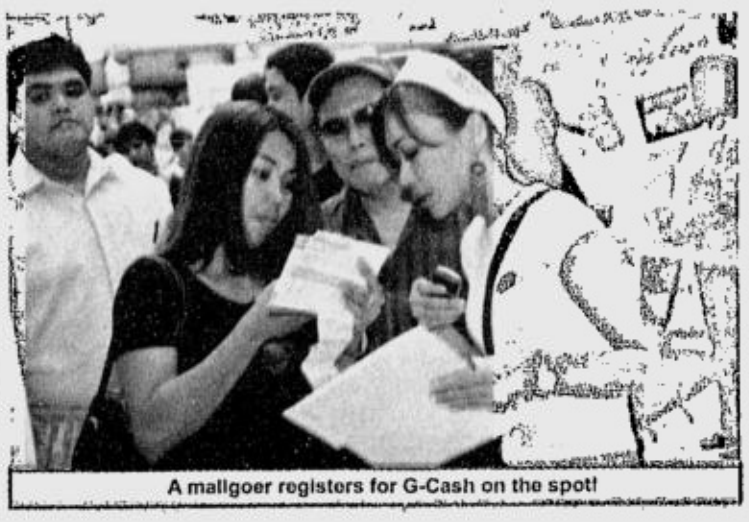
Endless possibilities with G-Cash!

Regular employees have also experienced the reliability, convenience and accessibility that m-commerce has to offer. Earlier this year, G-Cash partnered with the Bureau of Internal Revenue and Land Bank of the Philippines to mobile income tax return payments, extending payments beyond office hours, thus giving busy employees ample time to get their finances in order. And with Pay on the Go, the latest m-commerce application from G-Cash, employees now have the option of receiving a portion of their salary in their mobile wallet, which they can then use for other necessary G-Cash transactions.

In celebration of a year of pioneering innovations, more than 800,000 subscribers and a growing network of over 3,500 trusted partner institutions and establishments, Globe Handyphone staged the "Globe G-Cash Firsts" exhibition at the Glorietta Activity Center from October 12 to 16, 2005. The three-day extravaganza showcased great discounts and fun activities from G-Cash partners, much to the delight of mall-goers and interested bystanders. Each day had a different program specifically suited to the interests of three significant G-Cash users – mothers, OFWs, and teenagers. Indeed, Globe G-Cash Firsts had something in store for everyone!

Barely a year since it was first launched, G-Cash has empowered Filipinos with an unprecedented level of connectivity, allowing them to make their lives better. After becoming an integral part of Filipino life, G-Cash will continue to spearhead the wave of m-commerce in the years to come.

Busy moms sign up for G-Cash and receive a fab freebie from Globe Girlfriends.


A mallgoer registers for G-Cash on the spot!

More and more Globe and TM subscribers are joining the G-Cash bandwagon.

Lucky moms received a free makeover from professional makeup artists, courtesy of G-Cash partner Avon Philippines.

Globe's Business Development Manager, Vic San Pedro joins comedienne Winnie Cordero in explaining G-Cash mechanics.

Video games and other cool activities awaited Gentxters at the Globe G-Cash Firsts exhibit.

G-Cash user Marge Lopez shows off her Diva Mommy prizes.

The Automated G-Cash Machine is one of many ways subscribers can exchange cash for G-Cash.

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OPINION

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Bad for business

THE PRESIDENT showed up at the Philippine Business Conference last week in fighting trim. She was, to use the delicate language of professional wrestling, ready to rumble. It quickly became clear, however, that she had unwisely decided to take on any and all comers.

Yet again, she lumped everyone against her—"those critics and opposition leaders and destabilizers who would put politics above the people, who would besmirch the reputation of our great nation with our friends and allies abroad to fuel their own political agenda here at home"—into one convenient punching bag. As we have already pointed out, this is dangerous thinking, because it equates mere criticism of the President, or opposition to her, with the crime of destabilization.

EDITORIALS

But apparently, according to the news reports, the businessmen, meeting at what is traditionally the country's biggest annual business summit, heartily applauded President Macapagal-Arroyo's fighting words.

"We are just manifesting our support to the Chief Executive's move to take a more decisive, strong, and firm leadership," said Francis Chua, the president of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

"We believe that her show of political strength will also translate to more determined efforts to implement economic reforms," said Donald Dee, the president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Certainly, there is much to be said for decisiveness. Above all else, businessmen worry about the lack of certainty; a certain amount of political turmoil is manageable, but unpredictability is the enemy of business. A decisive leadership, therefore, promises more certainty, if only because some business conditions require the resolute exercise of political will.

There is a difference, however, between being decisive and taking a hard line.

In the President's case, lumping together all those opposed to her and then taking a whack at all of them is not an act of political will, but sheer willfulness. Take, for example, her bizarre argument that the Senate's detention of National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales has given "cover" to the Abu Sayyaf. This is mere pique, not considered policy.

So hold the applause. In the end, taking a hard line is bad for business, because it is guaranteed to worsen the political turbulence.

A sign of weakness

AT THE SAME Philippine Business Conference, the President made special mention of Sen. Manuel Villar's role in shepherding the Senate version of the anti-terrorism bill. Her remarks immediately put the spotlight back on Villar as, perhaps, the candidate the administration was grooming to replace Senate President Franklin Drilon with.

Lost in the speculation, however, was simple political reality. If Villar were indeed Malacañang's best hope to wrest control of the Senate, then the President's alliance with the property tycoon and one-time dollar billionaire is not a sign of political strength, but of weakness.

It was Villar, the lead chair of the joint Senate committee investigation into alleged *jueteng* payoffs, who allowed the damaging allegations against First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo and his son Rep. Mikey Arroyo to be aired in the first place. It was Villar, the head of the revived Nacionalista Party, who allowed his wife, Rep. Cynthia Villar, to publicly declare she was in favor of the impeachment complaint against the President. Not least, it was Villar who only last week suggested that it was best to go slow on the anti-terrorism bill, on account of Malacañang's emergency-rule scare tactics.

If he is truly the best candidate for Senate president that the Palace can rally its allies around, then the administration is in deeper trouble than it looks.

If, on the other hand, the President's mention of Villar's name was meant simply as a very public gesture of encouragement, it should still be considered a measure of political need, not proof of political strength. If the fortunes of one of the administration's main legislative priorities depend on someone like Villar, then the fate of other priority legislation can only be suspect too.

The inglorious fault of ambition

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

PARDON me, Mr. Speaker, but your slip is showing. I don't mean the underwear kind but the political slip. It's exhibiting to the whole nation that you are so desperately anxious to be the top banana that you must replace the present system with a parliamentary government where you hope to be the prime minister.

You were smothered by Erap in the 1998 presidential election and learned you could never reach Malacañang with the people's votes. So this time you'll try again with the Rainbow Coalition, whose members are easier to persuade compared to the 43.5 million voters you'll have to buy. Only recently, you proved your leadership when you ordered them to quash the impeachment complaints. Of course, you had a lot of help from Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, but you deserve considerable credit because you were the effective front man.

Now you're using that leadership again to push through the change that will revise the Constitution to satisfy your ambition. That's a cheap motive to justify the excision of the presidential system that has been governing us since 1935. We have had exemplary presidents before like Quezon and Magsaysay who enjoyed the nation's confidence and applause. Are you proposing the replacement of the present set-up because of our sad experience with Estrada and Ms Arroyo?

At least they were chosen directly by the sovereign electorate, who should share the blame for their excesses. De Venecia hopes to be elected by the same representatives who are now retaining him in power because of the perquisites he is generously distributing like junkets and allowances and pork barrel allocations. Qualifications are irrelevant and policies are immaterial; only legislative privileges are important as the opponents of GMA's impeachment proved last month.

A parliamentary government run by the same people in the present presidential government will be the same fraudulent masquerade under a different name. Let us not be so naïve as to believe that the establishment of a Parliament in lieu of the present Congress will wash away all of the latter's sins like a papal absolution. The present vultures who are feasting on the nation's flesh will continue to feed their avarice under whatever new government they may institute.

Already the President and her Speaker have created what they call a consultative commission allegedly to study changes intended to correct the shortcomings of the present Constitution. Its real purpose is to justify the establishment of a parliamentary form of government, which is the reason why its members are known advocates of the proposed reform. The present body is no different from the commission created in 1999 by President Estrada to propose changes in the 1987 Constitution like the elimination of its nationalistic provisions to accommodate foreign investors.

Commissioners Ceferino Padua and Ramon Felipe registered strong dissents but were outvoted by their colleagues who were there precisely to support the Yes Commission, as I called it in 2000. Nothing came out of that body; its thick recommendations were practically ignored and eventually dismissed like Erap himself. The extravagant public funds wasted on that project could have considerably alleviated the plight of millions of our starving masses who had supported the actor as their idol and savior.

Not to be outdone, the Abueva Commission is reportedly asking for more funds than the P10 million allotted for its expenses, including the per diems of its members amounting to P2.000 to P2,500. That's according to Neal Cruz, who must know what he is complaining about. I suppose GMA will not hesitate to grant the request, considering the loyalty to her of the commissioners and the urgency of the mandate they must obey. Good for former Senate President Jovito R. Salonga, who was invited to the body and probably would have been its chair, but wisely declined.

One thing the commissioners must study is how to get rid of the Senate when they establish a unicameral Parliament more efficient (or more obedient) than an obstructive Upper House. The senators, especially those elected last year and will have five more years to serve, will certainly not agree to the abolition of their chamber and their jobs. They will probably cite President Quezon who called for the replacement of the submissive National Assembly with a more independent Congress in 1941.

Then there is still the unresolved question of whether Congress can directly propose the change of the Constitution by a vote of three-fourths of all the members of Congress, as Art. XVII, Sec. 1 reads, or three-fourths of the members of each House, voting separately. It has been suggested that the process must be like the enactment of a bill which when approved by one House needs the concurrence of the other House. However, the revision or amendment of the Constitution is not lawmaking and may follow a different procedure.

Alexander Pope described ambition as "the glorious fault of angels and of gods," but De Venecia is but mortal man. His ambition is not made of selfless stuff.

Fame? Name?

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

HERE ARE SOME QUESTIONS ON SOME FAmous names, according to a text message I received:

Where did Vincent Van Gogh? Why is Norman Black? Where did Sandara Park? Is Chow Yun Fat? What did Henry Sy? Why is Alonzo Mourning? Is Lucio Tan? and when will Orlando Bloom?

* * *

In today's Gospel (Mt 22, 15-21), Jesus is questioned about Caesar, the most famous and the most powerful person at that time. Not to be trapped into political controversies, Jesus emphasizes the greatness of God over any earthly power by answering the question: "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God."

* * *

For some politicians and rulers, this verse is among the most popular verses in the Bible. In fact, even if they know nothing else in the Bible, they can quote this! It is the clincher which they think should silence all Church and religious people who are fond of criticizing the government.

* * *

But this simplistic thinking conveniently overlooks the fact that all power, wealth and fame come from God, including even that that of great Caesar's. Isaiah says it well in the first reading, when he has God speaking to the mighty Persian King Cyrus: "I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the Lord and there is no other, there is no God besides me." So, while we give to God all our allegiance, we can only give to Caesar what he/she can rightly demand. After all, Caesar too must give to God what belongs to God.

* * *

In our midst, there are people who have riches, power and fame. By no means do we begrudge them their efforts and their achievements, but we do remind them that they too have to render to God what belongs to God. The problem arises when some people become so drunk with money, fame and power, they themselves begin to think that they are gods; they actually believe they are the favorites of God and, in fact, have a direct and infallible communication link and access to Him.

* * *

Lest they forget, people with money and power have the duty to render to the people of God what is truly and rightfully theirs. May the greed and lust for power of some not deprive the people of God of their liberty, dreams and opportunities for a better life. Woe unto him or her who lies, steals and cheats on God's people. Power and authority are for service. Those who are consumed by power will sooner or later, be consumed by it. "Everyone of us, then, will have to give an account of himself to God." (Rom 14:12)

* * *

What is fame? What is a name if the process of getting it leads one to shame? People will long remember the goodness and kindness you have done. What's the use of all your money if it does not benefit anyone?

* * *

I had a chance to visit the Museum of Egypt in Cairo recently, and I was amazed at seeing all the wealth and treasures of King Tuttankhammun. But museums only remind us of one thing: that we carry nothing with us when we leave this world. For those who plan to amass more wealth or have more power, go to a museum or cemetery sometime, and be reminded of how short life is, and how fleeting power and fame are. I think, it is a Spanish proverb that says, "There are no pockets in a shroud."

* * *

By the way, someone once asked about the difference between a politician and a statesman.

A statesman thinks he belongs to the country, while a politician believes that the country belongs to him. Elsewhere, I also read that a statesman is one who works for the good of the nation, while a politician is one who works for the next election. Wanted, more statesmen (women) in our country!

* * *

"Pray for the will of God in every situation." This is a beautiful piece of advice for all of us to follow, so that we don't forget to render unto God what belongs to Him. As long as we are open to God, and docile to His will, we will not go astray. And there will be no Caesars in our midst.

* * *

The whole world belongs to God, and we must render unto Him what belongs to Him. Today is World Mission Sunday. Please pray for all our missionaries all over the world and continue to support them. They have left home, country and family, braving deprivation, loneliness, and even persecutions "out there" to proclaim the Kingdom of God. We, too, "in here" must do our share, and do our mission, wherever God places us.

* * *

52 and 25 in October 2005. I'm 52 years old and 25 years in the priesthood this October. Somehow, in my own little way, I have tried all these years to render unto God what belongs to Him. Join me in thanking God with a 5 p.m. Eucharistic celebration and a concert for the benefit of the missions at the Meralco Theater on Oct. 29, 2005. For particulars, please contact Tel. No. 721-7457.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, more than fame and name, help me to seek only your will in everything. Amen

A crisis of confidence

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

MOST UNIVERSITIES AROUND THE WORLD have exclusive fraternities or sororities which take in a limited number of members from the student body. This comes after a selection system known only to the group. Initiation rites serve as part of the bonding process. Unfortunately, from time to time, these activities have turned violent with fatal results.

At the Philippine Military Academy, there are no such exclusive clubs. The whole cadet corps is one huge fraternity with its members going through the same initiation rituals, wearing the same uniforms, partaking of the same meals, receiving the same compensation (whether a cadet private or first captain), and practicing a code of conduct that prepares them for leadership positions in the Armed Forces. After graduation, all automatically become members of the PMA Alumni Association Inc., (PMAAAI) a non-stock, non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the country and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The PMAAAI has five major chapters, namely: the Army chapter, the Air Force chapter, the Navy chapter, the PNP chapter and the Business, Industry and Retirees chapter (BIRC). There are also fraternal groupings such as the Overseas chapter composed mainly of alumni residing in the United States. The major service chapters are made up of members who are on active status; they number approximately 4,000, representing roughly 35 percent of the AFP officer corps. The PNP chapter, which has seen a reduction in strength over the years, is currently down to 660 members and this figure will continue to shrink as the old PMAyers in the police organization gradually fade away, supplanted by graduates of the Philippine National Police Academy in Silang, Cavite. The PMA stopped sending graduates to the PNP in the early '90s when the PNP was separated from the AFP. The BIRC, composed of retired officers, has about 1,600 members.

Because of the composition of the association—mainly active service members—the PMAAAI has not been too vocal on current issues facing the nation. It has hewed to the line enunciated by the high command of both the AFP and PNP, espousing a neutral and apolitical position for both organizations. Thus it has been left to the retirees' chapter, the BIRC, to assume a public and at times, aggressive stance on some of the more sensitive issues of the day.

Last June 28, the board of directors of the BIRC chapter, led by Col. Mariano Santiago (Ret.), Class of 1967, and brother of former AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Dionisio Santiago, approved Resolution No. 05-01 calling on President Macapagal-Arroyo, together with all the members of the Cabinet, to resign and step down from their positions in government. It also asked the nation to respect the constitutional process of presidential succession to avoid disunity and deadly confrontation over the presidency. As in the case of the Makati Business Club, some of the BIRC members were not too happy about the board action.

Recently, the BIRC board passed another resolution, No. 05-03, expressing support for Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani and Lt. Col. Alexander Balutan, and encouraged other senior military officers mentioned in the "Garci" tapes to come forward to help in the search for truth. It also urged the President to immediately rescind Executive Order No. 464 insofar as AFP and PNP personnel were concerned. The resolution also called on the AFP to desist from subjecting Gudani and Balutan to court martial proceedings, for to do so would be to challenge the authority of the Senate under whose orders and protection they testified.

* * *

In a speech delivered last week at a testimonial dinner for AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga and PNP Chief Director General Arturo Lomibao, the current chair of the PMAAAI, Lt. Gen. Salvador M. Mison (Ret.), Class of 1955 declared: "The military and police establishments, by tradition and constitutional injunction, do not get involved in partisan politics. By nature, they hardly entertain passionate views on political issues. But as instruments of the State, they cannot be indifferent to, and insulate themselves from political events that are altering the course of our country's history."

The dusky old warrior, a tough combat veteran who at one time served as Customs Commissioner and is now president of Basic Holdings Corporation, spoke of a "crisis of confidence not only in the political but also in the military leadership. When junior and middle rank officers publicly come out with their grievances and disappointments to the extent of even staging a potentially dangerous military adventure, something must be wrong somewhere in the upper leadership structure .... What we need are leaders whom we can salute with all due respect and genuine admiration. Let us pray that at the most crucial hours, when the fate of the country hangs in the balance, they [Senga and Lomibao] will act with courage, honor and dignity. We grant that our honorees have full control of their commands. We are confident they will acquit themselves creditably during their watch as heads of our defense and law enforcement organizations."

The current president of the PMAAAI is Chief Supt. Jefferson P. Soriano, PNP Regional Director for Region II and a member of Class 1976. Soriano called on the alumni to remain apolitical and to leave politics to the politicians; and to uphold the rule of law as well as the chain of command.

Hope down South

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE

Patricia Evangelista

THE SUN SETS EARLY IN PUROK ISLAM.

Outlined against the sky's fading brightness is the shape of a star, nestled against a crescent moon; they crown a newly made mosque. This is Purok Islam, a tiny town in Griño Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat, Mindanao.

* * *

During the 1970s, pockets of conflict exploded between the Blackshirts (Muslim vigilantes) and the Ilaga, their Christian counterparts. Muslims and Christians were caught in the crossfire. In 1972, word spread that Purok Islam was the new target of terror. Oscar Griño, a wealthy Christian landowner from a neighboring village, advised the community members to evacuate.

That night, the town of Purok Islam was set on fire. The villagers were gone, all had evacuated into the Muslim village of Buluan.

Four years after the attack, Oscar Griño passed by Buluan on his way to Davao, and spoke to one of the Muslims from Purok Islam. Life was difficult for them, with so little opportunity for work that many of them were practically starving. The same prejudice and anger that led to the 1972 war still exists, and so does the danger.

Oscar told them to wait. "*Kukunin ko kayo.*"

There were a hundred Muslim families who made their home in a barn beside the Griño residence. To keep them safe from reprisal, the existence of the community was made secret. They were given Christian clothes to wear, food to eat and gardens they could tend to add to their daily fare. Oscar's wife, Norma, a nurse herself, cared for their wounds and illnesses.

They stayed for more than a year. When Oscar decided that it was safe for them to go out in the open, the Muslims were allowed to put up shelters on Griño land. He promised them all that someday, they would have land of their own.

Many years later, when the family property was divided among the Griño siblings, Oscar put aside two hectares of land and gave it to the Muslims.

* * *

Deanna met Noel Griño, Oscar's son, when she was 23. Three years later, they were married. By the time she had her third baby, Deanna had quit her job on Noel's request and was busy caring for the family.

In the summer of 2002, Gawad Kalinga reached Mindanao. By then, Deanna had realized that she needed to go out of her comfort zone.

"I realized that there is a bigger family of humanity out there (that) I needed to be concerned about—to learn to love. We went into it with passion. In fact, it is our passion."

There was initial disbelief among the Muslims that Christians would want to build their houses with them. This was accompanied with apprehension about a Christian "conversion" agenda.

"But as we continued to show them that all we wanted was to reach out as brother Filipinos, they slowly held out their hands to take ours."

In Noel's words, "It was a love story."

* * *

Deanna got pregnant with her sixth baby when the couple was deep into their GK work. At her pre-natal check-up, the doctor discovered a huge tumor in Deanna's left ovary. They decided to wait until the baby was born before dealing with the problem.

On the seventh month of her pregnancy, Deanna had to undergo an emergency C-section. Baby Alex was brought all the way to Davao City because medical equipment was not complete in Tacurong. After three days, they lost the baby.

A week after the surgery, they received Deanna's biopsy result. The tumor was malignant. She had ovarian cancer.

She underwent five chemotherapy treatments. She lost her hair, but it was the only difference her children found in their mother.

"For the children, cancer is just a word, a vocabulary—because they have not seen me lying sick in bed. Chemotherapy had not weakened me in the way others were weakened by it. I would go out of the hospital the way I entered it—on my feet—walking just as briskly. Right after the treatment, we would travel three hours back to Tacurong."

Deanna says she was never depressed. They continued working for Gawad Kalinga just like nothing was happening. Her disposition, she said, was out of character. "I wasn't even trying hard to be happy. Joy just overflowed from inside me."

Deanna had her whole abdominal CT scan last July, "and everything is in perfect shape."

* * *

Most of Liguasan Marsh in Gen. SK Pendatun is part of the 40,000-hectare wetlands believed to be the refuge of rebels.

Once at the Marsh pier, someone asked a boatman, "*Dito ba dinadala at sinasakay ang mga nakaw na motorcycles at ang mga nakikidnap* (Is this where stolen motorcycles are brought)?"

The boatman answered matter-of-factly. "*A, oo. Minsan dito sinasakay, minsan naman sa kabila* (A, yes. At times they're loaded here, at other times, there)," he said while pointing to another boat.

When GK began in the area, Noel was one of the first allowed inside. Deanna says she is afraid every time Noel goes into danger. But as Noel himself once said, "If being brave is not feeling fear, then I am not brave. But what I know is this—my love for God is bigger that this fear."

* * *

On Oct. 10, 2005, Congress unanimously approved House Resolution 68. Introduced by Rep. Francis Escudero, the resolution enjoins "all members of the House of Representatives to support the propagation of the Gawad Kalinga program throughout the country," with the goal of "rebuilding the nation."

The resolution acknowledged that "traditional ways of helping the poor" have not worked and that the "culture of charity and dole-outs" has actually "demeaned the dignity of the poor."

Gawad Kalinga, stated the resolution, is an "integrated, holistic and sustainable community development program that aims to empower the poor and marginalized," through the Filipino tradition of Bayanihan. The program is not based on dole-outs, but on utilizing the capabilities of all concerned, especially the poor. More than 15,000 brightly colored homes have risen throughout the nation in replacement of slums.

In Mindanao, the Highway of Peace (Hope) has built 25 communities, with Christians and Muslims working side by side as brothers. Rival corporations, civic groups, NGOs and thousands of volunteers have brought to fruition the Couples for Christ initiative that was once called "impossible."

* * *

The Griños' story is just one of many. As a GK slogan goes, "Bawat Pilipino, Bayani."

In Purok Islam, the mosque is a gift from another anonymous Christian, who helped through the Griños.

Village head Mondi Mamangkas sat in front of the whitewashed mosque and spoke to GK volunteers, along with this writer. A young villager sat beside him and translated the old man's words.

"*Dati nagtatago kami, ngayon pwede na kami lumabas* (We used to hide but now we can go into the open)," he said.

* * *

Send comments to pat.evangelista@gmail.com.

Bringing Arbet back to life

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

CEBU—A YEAR AGO LAST TUESDAY, A MAN knocked on the door of the home-office in this city of Arbet Sta. Ana-Yongco, a human rights lawyer who had established a reputation for her expertise in women's and children's rights. Most prominent among the cases that Arbet was handling was that of the killing of Alona Bacolod Ecleo, for whose family Arbet was the private prosecutor. Alona's husband, Ruben, was arrested and tried for her murder; he is currently out on bail.

Witnesses say that early morning of Oct. 11 last year, they heard gunshots just as Arbet came to the door, and seconds later, her family found her on the floor, a bullet through her face.

Arbet's murder sent shock waves through Cebu, particularly through the legal community and the women's movement, where Arbet was quite active. Especially affected were Arbet's sisters in Abanse! Pinay, not just in Cebu but throughout the country. Arbet was Cebu provincial coordinator for Abanse! Pinay and had campaigned earnestly and energetically for the women's party-list group in the 2004 campaign. An accomplished singer, she even recorded a new Abanse! Pinay campaign jingle based on the Cebuano ditty "Si Filemon."

Most of us in Abanse! Pinay met Arbet only during the post-election evaluation. We could not help but remember her, for Arbet struck everyone she met with her infectious energy and lust for life. It was thus so difficult for us to accept her passing, to reconcile the Arbet we knew with the woman we were mourning for.

* * *

ABOUT a hundred Abanse! Pinay members gathered in this city over the weekend to prepare for the coming elections of 2007, as well as to map out ways to pursue the advocacy for electoral reforms. We felt that the unresolved doubts about the 2004 elections lie at the heart of the current political crisis. For this reason, we invited former Comelec Chair Christian Monsod to help us draw up a list of priorities.

But we had timed our assembly precisely to allow us to formally observe the first anniversary of Arbet's death—sisters coming together to remember and celebrate the life of a sister who was so devoted to the cause of Abanse! Pinay.

Our ritual began with all of us making our entrance into the darkened hall lit only by the candles we carried. As we entered, we each were given a rose to be our offering for Arbet. Gospel readings were followed by personal reminiscences of her friends and colleagues, while a slide show of pictures of Arbet at work and with her loved ones was shown. Afterward, pieces of paper, containing prayers and petitions in behalf of Arbet, her family, her organizations and the causes she devoted herself to, were distributed and we were all asked to burn our petitions for Arbet and say a silent prayer for her.

The ritual closed with the playing of the Abanse! Pinay jingle sung by Arbet, to which she had supplied new lyrics, calling on women to rise and organize to bring an end to their suffering and oppression. If anything, hearing Arbet's voice so full of verve and conviction brought her back to us and made us all the more determined to carry on with our shared mission, to bring meaning to her sacrifice and her life.

* * *

PART of our agenda for the assembly was also to formulate party stands on different national issues and concerns, with the current repressive moves of the government, as well as the political crisis besetting the Arroyo presidency enjoying priority.

I will be honest and confess that on the issue of the President's culpability in the "Garci" tapes controversy, the membership of Abanse! Pinay was far from unified. There were some chapters which collectively believed and affirmed that GMA indeed won "fair and square." Others said that "every politician cheats at one time or another" and said they distrusted those in the opposition who would attempt to milk the controversy of all the political advantage they could gain from it.

But there was also one member who confessed that she had campaigned hard for GMA last year, but that after listening to the tapes and reading the transcripts, she felt a deep sense of betrayal, that the President "had not trusted us enough" that she could win without having to resort to cheating.

* * *

THE DISCUSSION in search of consensus on this issue was heated and, I hope, honest. But when all the talking was done, this is the statement which we now issue as an entire party:

"Abanse! Pinay believes in the integrity of the electoral system and the need to protect and respect the sanctity of the ballot. We will never accept nor tolerate electoral fraud in any manner, which is why we still believe it is important to pursue the search for truth behind allegations of cheating in the last elections.

"At present, a cloud of doubt hangs over the legitimacy of the Arroyo presidency. A public office is a public trust, and to lead effectively a leader must enjoy the confidence and support of the majority of the citizenry. We at Abanse! Pinay believe that if Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo truly has the public welfare in mind, she should step down immediately and pave the way for a peaceful and legal transition.

"This we believe even as we say the search for truth behind the conspiracy in the last elections must continue. President Macapagal-Arroyo has shown that she is willing to sacrifice the public good, to the extent of threatening and putting our basic rights at risk, if only to remain in office. We shall support moves to hasten her departure from office, as long as these are peaceful and enjoy public support. We oppose any form of military-led action.

"Abanse! Pinay commits (itself) to pursue electoral reform as a basic advocacy and plan of action, because we believe clean and honest election is the bedrock of democracy."

Realpolitik vs ethical politics

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

THERE IS AN APPROACH TO POLITICS THAT equates power with the ability to impose one's will on others through the effective marshaling of strategic forces under one's control. In foreign affairs, it is called realpolitik. Modern politics is often conceived in these terms. It is politics without values.

The study of politics in stable societies debunks this view. If there is to be cooperation in society rather than perpetual conflict, says the German social theorist Jurgen Habermas, politics as a practical activity has to make room for values. The same applies to the legal system of any society. Laws cannot be treated only as commands backed up by punitive power. They also have to be seen as embodying reason—God's or the community's. This ingredient spells the difference between mere legality and moral validity.

The more desperate Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo becomes, the more she resorts to ruthless realpolitik to keep the presidency. Here the preferred methods are those of remuneration and intimidation. She does not hesitate to buy the loyalty of individuals, or prey upon the vulnerability of those who oppose her. She alternately begs, cajoles, rewards and threatens people—to obtain support. She seizes every opportunity to form the most fleeting coalition in order to secure a tactical advantage. And she lies without compunction. To her, people are nothing but expendable instruments of power. Politicians like her are among history's most dangerous leaders.

Marcos and Estrada would seem like weaklings beside Ms Arroyo. The late dictator had a chance to order the bombing of the gathered throng at Edsa, but he hesitated and held back. At that fatal moment, he must have felt rationally accountable. If he had stayed on as president, he would surely have had to sit on a throne of bayonets to enforce his rule.

Joseph Estrada could have used the enormous powers of his office to block the impeachment process at every stage. The majority of the legislators in both chambers of Congress were on his side. Instead of leaving Malacañang, he could have insisted that the impeachment tribunal be reconvened after the walkout of the prosecutors. He could have invoked the rule of law to disperse the crowds in the streets. Instead of allowing himself to be led out of his house by an arresting team to be mugshot and fingerprinted like a common criminal, he could have called upon his angry supporters to defend their president. He was, after all, a validly elected president. He did none of these, because despite his many faults and lack of formal training, Estrada was in awe of the law.

Ms Arroyo stands in awe of nothing and no one. Not the people, not the Constitution, not the judgment of history, maybe not even God—or she would not glibly use His name at every turn to validate her right to the presidency. Some may call her clever for knowing how to use her powers to fight those who question her continued stay in office. I believe she is not clever; she is just reckless. By using the law and all its institutions to shield her from any challenge to her legitimacy, she incites people to disrespect the law and the nation's fragile institutions. But more than this, every day she remains in office, she pushes the nation to the edge of violence from which it may not recover.

There is no reason why any society cannot find itself mired in this type of politics for a long time. Cynicism erodes ideals and strips politics of its normative content. Leaders are routinely permitted to do as they please because their continued rule happens to be beneficial to the narrow interests of the powerful few. Before anyone realizes what is happening, the leaders become monsters that cannot be restrained by anyone. Hitler is a classic example. He tapped into the deepest fears of Germany's middle class and the prevailing disenchantment with politicians in order to weave a mad regime that exterminated millions of people and invaded neighboring countries.

Ms Arroyo's madness is not yet of this scale, but she is beginning to manifest the same symptoms. She seeks to free herself from any accountability by painting all who would check and oppose her as destabilizers or power grabbers. She exploits the cynicism of the public about all politicians in order to strip the latter of any moral right to criticize her. She describes politics in our society as so "degenerated" and everyone who participates in it as unclean in order to excuse her own use of corrupt and expedient means to retain power. She tears at the last fabric that holds our people's "lifeworld" together and puts everything at risk all in the name of power politics.

No nation that allows itself to be governed by such barefaced cynicism can hope to accomplish big things. It will be pulled apart by the clash of personal agenda. It will destroy itself and pave the way for the rule of tyrants.

There is no way out of this, says Habermas, other than by returning to the basic ways of deliberative democracy. By revitalizing popular participation, instead of shortcircuiting it, we may be able to achieve consensus on what constitutes the common good. All our past elections have been merely exercises in the counting of individual preferences. The point is to use them as occasions for their fusion into a collective vision.

* * *

Comments to public.lives@gmail.com

TALK of the TOWN

Philippine flu preparedness plan

TRAVEL BAN, QUARANTINE, CLOSURE OF PUBLIC PLACES OR ESTABLISHments, cancellation of mass gatherings, and declaration of a state of emergency are among the measures that the government may have to take in case of a flu pandemic in the country.

These measures are contained in a 91-page "Preparedness and Response Plan for Avian and Pandemic Influenza" drafted recently by the Department of Health after consultations with other government agencies, medical groups and several international organizations.

Scientists have warned that the H5N1 virus in birds that appeared in Southeast Asia in 2003 could come into contact with a human flu virus and mutate into a strain that can spread from human to human, causing a pandemic. A pandemic is a global outbreak of a disease.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has verified 60 people who died of bird flu in Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and Indonesia. Raising fears of a pandemic is the discovery by a group of scientists that the Spanish flu pandemic that killed up to 50 million people in 1918-1919 had begun among birds and then mutated and spread to humans.

WHO says a new pandemic could kill between 2 million and 7.4 million people, while the UN coordinator for avian and human influenza places the number at 5 million to 150 million.

In a worst case scenario, a plan drafted by the administration of US President George W. Bush for a possible outbreak of a pandemic warns that more than 1.9 million Americans would die and 8.5 million would be hospitalized.

The DOH plan does not estimate the death toll in the country. The health department acknowledges that "certain areas of this plan need further development," adding that revisions or additional information in the plan will be communicated to the public through memorandum circulars or through its website www.doh.gov.ph.

IMMUNIZATION WITH APPROpriately formulated flu vaccine can reduce the impact, particularly on groups most at risk of serious illness or death from the disease. However, the vaccine is likely to be in short supply.

The vaccine may be available after at least six months from the start of the pandemic depending on the rate of isolation of the virus, applicability of current technology and culture cells and the quantity of doses that can be produced.

The Philippines does not have the capacity to manufacture the vaccine. Availability of the vaccine will depend on the manufacturing rate of drug companies, allocation to the Philippines in the midst of enormous global demand, and government funding.

Not all Filipinos are expected to be provided with the vaccine. Thus, the following options are considered:

- **Option 1**. Assuming funds are available, there is a need to determine the quantity that can be provided to the Philippines. Should a decision be made to procure the vaccine, sources of funds need to be identified. The most possible funding source is the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

The vaccine will have to be distributed equitably and administered to predetermined groups.

Priority for immunization

Because supply will likely be limited, among the first groups that should receive the vaccine are healthcare staff with patient contact (including ambulance staff), and those providing essential services, which would be disrupted by excess absenteeism during an outbreak e.g. police personnel, firefighters, security guards, public utility workers, undertakers and soldiers

Those with chronic respiratory or heart disease, renal failure, diabetes mellitus or immunosuppression due to diseases or treatment will also be a priority.

The precise order will depend on the recommendations of the Technical Working Group for Influenza in light of information on the changing epidemiology of the pandemic.

- **Option 2**. Not all priority groups can be provided with vaccine. The government may not be able to acquire the vaccine. However, drastic public health measures to prevent the spread of the infection will be undertaken.
- **Option 3**. The government requests pharmaceutical companies to allocate the vaccine to the Philippines. Each individual will shoulder the cost of the vaccine.

Antiviral agents

Under pandemic conditions, antiviral agents are highly important during the first wave of infection when vaccines are not yet available. In the absence of vaccines, antivirals are the only medical intervention for providing protection against the disease and therapeutic benefits to persons who are ill.

During a pandemic, antiviral agents may not be enough to meet the demands of many countries. When the attack rate is high, the option is to provide the antiviral agents to areas where the first cases of flu pandemic are seen.

Health personnel, first responders and workers providing essential services will be among the first groups to be given the antiviral agents for prophylaxis.

For treatment, the priority will be patients considered at high risk of severe disease. Clinical predictors of serious outcomes would be needed to better maximize the use of limited supplies.

Managing large cases

Efforts are being made for the procurement of oseltamivir capsules for prophylaxis and treatment of cases. When an upsurge of flu cases in a province or region occurs, a predesignated staff shall be immediately deployed to the area to bring the antiviral agent.

- Who should stay at home?

Patients with fever and/or cough, or individuals without serious medical conditions may stay at home for symptomatic treatment. They must take adequate rest and practice personal hygiene to prevent the spread of the disease.

- Who should consult with local health centers?

Consultation is advised for patients with persistent fever, difficulty of breathing, or if the patient becomes weak.

- Who should be admitted to hospitals?

The following patients with flu-like symptoms should be admitted: Age 6 to 23 months; 50 years and above; those with underlying diseases such as chronic cardiovascular disease, chronic lung disease, chronic metabolic disease, immunosuppres and those with hemoglobinopathies; residents of nursing homes; and, healthcare workers.

- What are levels of healthcare where patients in a pandemic may be treated?

Cases with fever, runny nose and cough will stay at home. Cases with beginning symptoms of mild pneumonia will be managed by health centers and general practitioners in private clinics.

Pneumonia cases will be admitted to community and district hospitals. Cases with severe and very severe pneumonia will be admitted to tertiary hospitals.

Overwhelmed

Local health centers and outpatient departments maybe overwhelmed by the influx of patients seeking consultation. Manpower, drugs and supplies may not be enough.

Further spread of the virus may be hastened by the crowding of people.

Volunteers from support groups, nongovernment organizations and other agencies will be mobilized. Personal protective equipment such as caps, masks, gloves and gowns should be provided to the health staff.

A triage system shall be established and practiced in health centers. A staff shall screen all patients. Those with respiratory signs shall be led to a designated area while patients with nonrespiratory complaints shall be brought to another holding area.

Primary level

- For fever, salicylates should not be given to patients less than 12 years old to prevent the development of Reye's syndrome, which consists of signs and symptoms of hepatic and central nervous system involvement.
- Antibiotics shall be given only to patients with complications like pneumonia.
- Nebulization may be done only when necessary but should be in a designated place away from the area for other patients to prevent further spread of the virus through aerosolization.
- If available, oseltamivir may be given within the first two days of illness.

Local government units shall allocate funds for the purchase of drugs and medicines.

A declaration of a state of calamity may be done to allow the use of local government funds for the pandemic in the following circumstances: when there is a 20-percent increase in consultations over the past two weeks compared with the same period of the previous year.

Hospital services

Shortage of beds, equipment and supplies is foreseen during the pandemic. Hospitals will adopt policies on admissions, prioritizing the more serious, severe and urgent cases.

In the event of mass numbers of patients seeking admission, a contingency plan shall be developed for augmenting hospital beds with the following: vacant wards to be utilized; cohorting of cases; temporary infirmaries such as school buildings, covered gymnasiums military facilities.

To ensure continuous availability of manpower, medical and paramedical organizations such as the Philippine Medical Association, Philippine Nurses Association, Integrated Midwives Association of the Philippines, Organization of Private Duty Nurses, medical specialty societies, and Association of Public Health Workers shall mobilize their members.

High absentee rates

Essential services must be provided despite high absentee rates.

Hospitals should prepare a list of personnel to man the triage, OPD, ARI wards, ICU wards, and power and water utilities maintenance with back-up staff in case of illness.

Hospital administrators shall mobilize manpower resources from local medical and nursing associations. They must also prepare a directory of government and private medical practitioners and paramedical workers.

Food provisions and sleeping quarters shall be provided by the hospital administrators.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ/PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

Expert panel

Representatives from the World Health Organization (WHO), the medical specialty societies and the Department of Health (DOH), Technical Working Group for Influenza shall comprise the Expert Panel for Pandemic Influenza. It shall update the management guidelines based on reports and observations obtained during the pandemic.

Unless shown otherwise, it is presumed that antiviral agents, if given within the first two days of illness, may be effective in halting the progress of the illness and in the prevention of complications.

- Osetalmivir may be given to patients within the first two days of illness, if available.
- Antibiotics given intravenously shall be provided to flu cases with pneumonia complications.
- Ventilator is only used if indicated and appropriate infection measures shall be carried out.
- Management of pneumonia shall be based on the Philippine Society for Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Guidelines of community-acquired pneumonia.

Supplies of relevant drugs (e.g. antibiotics) and equipment (e.g. ventilators) will need to be secured. Identify and coordinate with suppliers of drugs, intravenous fluids, ventilators and X-ray plates.

Mortuary arrangements

The risk of nosocomial spread may be reduced by isolating cases, practicing standard and droplet precautions for infection control and adopting a policy of, as far as possible, admitting patients with flu only if they have medical complications.

Health facilities shall institute appropriate infection control measures.

Patients needing tertiary care will be transported to a health facility capable of providing such level of care using the ambulance of the referring facility.

Local government executives with jurisdiction over the referral facility shall allow and facilitate the transport of the patient.

In the event of a large number of deaths, mortuary arrangements shall be based on culturally appropriate disposal of dead bodies (cremation, immediate burial).

Burial sites and cadaver bags also need to be prepared. A protocol previously developed for the culturally appropriate disposal of dead bodies shall be adopted.

In a pandemic situation, essential services providers may get sick resulting in massive absenteeism. This will threaten public safety and interfere with the appropriate response to the pandemic. Volunteers from support groups will have to be mobilized to augment manpower needs.

The nonhealth essential services are peace and order; fire control; air, land and transport; water and power utility; emergency and disaster response teams; communication; and food supply maintenance.

Travel ban

The spread of flu is unlikely to be stopped, but some slowing of the spread of infection is possible by reducing unnecessary especially long distance travel, and by encouraging those suffering from illness to stay at home.

When faced with a pandemic situation, the public will be strongly advised to carry out personal protective measures and behaviors, though not all of these are effective.

Confirmation of human-to-human transmissions will trigger aggressive measures aimed at averting a pandemic. Local measures will be done in specific areas where transmission is occurring.

The effectiveness of many interventions will depend on the behavior of the virus as determined by its pathogenicity, principal mode of transmission (droplet or aerosol), attack rate in different age groups, duration of virus shedding, and susceptibility to antivirals.

Considerations in the adoption of appropriate measures are effectiveness, feasibility, costs, availability of resources, ease of implementation, impact of possible interventions and public acceptability.

To increase social distance, public health interventions maybe pursued but only after careful assessment of the situation at the time of the pandemic since these actions may have adverse economic consequences. The interventions may include the following:

- Suspension of public events.
- Limitation of movement from one area with flu outbreaks to another with no or few cases.
- Suspension of travel to a country with outbreaks.
- Closure or limitation of people in public places or establishments.
- Cancellation of mass gatherings.

Specific measures

Other nonmedical interventions include public risk communication, isolation of cases, tracing and appropriate management of contacts.

- Public information on personal hygiene to prevent spread of respiratory diseases is a continuing effort even before the pandemic. Frequent hand washing shall be encouraged.
- Offices and establishments shall provide hand-washing facilities with adequate water.
- Closing schools would be an option if teacher absenteeism reaches levels at which schools could not function.

Shut off air-con

- To reduce the rate of transmission, public vehicles such as light rail trains, buses, taxicabs and private vehicles shall shut off their air-conditioning systems and keep the windows open.

Curtains in buses will be removed as they may harbor the virus for a certain period of time and can be a source of infection.

- Infection control measures shall be carried out in crowded areas, military barracks, schools and offices. In a pandemic setting, use of masks in public places is reasonable.

In a pandemic situation, people who have had contact with flu cases shall stay in their own homes.

- Students, school staff and office workers, who have fever and respiratory illness, shall not be allowed to report to schools or offices.
- Entry-exit management at ports and airports. Airline companies shall coordinate with the Bureau of Quarantine on the screening of passengers, the proper handling of patients on board the plane and referral of patients to hospitals.
- Travel restrictions shall be announced as deemed necessary and shall be based upon discussions of the DOH, the Department of Foreign Affairs and the WHO.
- Information materials shall be posted in public vehicles, offices and establishments.

State of emergency

A state of emergency will be declared by the Chief Executive upon determination of the extent of the pandemic and the areas affected. It may be called at the local or national level.

Upon recommendation of the health secretary, the Chief Executive will institute public health measures based on the existing laws or executive orders as deemed necessary and within the frame of International Health Regulation.

(Excerpts from the "Preparedness and Response Plan for Avian and Pandemic Influenza" drafted by the Department of Health.)

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Bayan Muna Tarlac leader shot dead

By Russell Arador
PDI Central Luzon Desk

TARLAC CITY—AN OFFICIAL OF THE PARTY-LIST group Bayan Muna in Tarlac was gunned down by two motorcycle-riding men on Saturday in Camiling town, police said.

Florante Collantes, 57, secretary general of Bayan Muna in the province, was attacked at 11 a.m. in his house in Barangay Tuec, police said.

He was the fifth Bayan Muna leader killed in Tarlac since December last year.

Collantes was standing in front of his *sari-sari* store when two men riding in a red Yamaha motorcycle shot him. Reports said Collantes' wife, who was with him when he was attacked, was unhurt.

Collantes died before reaching the Camiling District Hospital.

Manuel Loste, Bayan Muna national vice chair, said his group suspected Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan Jr., commander of the Army's 7th Infantry Division, had something to do with the killings of Collantes and other Bayan Muna leaders.

"These killings happen whenever Palparan is around. It happened in Southern Tagalog, it happened in Eastern Visayas and it is now happening in Central Luzon," Loste told the INQUIRER by telephone.

Loste said Bayan Muna could not avoid blaming Palparan because he had been vocal about his dislike for communist rebels and left-leaning organizations.

Palparan denied that he or any of his soldiers were involved in the killing of Collantes. He said the slaying was "part of efforts to make my presence here very uncomfortable."

Collantes' killing was the second this month that involved a Bayan Muna official in Tarlac.

On Oct. 7, Rolando Mariano, former president of the Tarlac Electric Cooperative Employees' Labor Union (Telu) and Bayan Muna coordinator in Gerona town, was killed in Victoria town.

Mariano was driving a white Tamaraw FX van, with four other Tarelco employees onboard, when gunmen attacked them near the Tarelco office in Barangay San Fernando in Victoria.

On Dec. 8 last year, Marcelino Beltran, chair of the Alyansa ng Magbubukid sa Tarlac, was gunned down in front of his house in Sta. Ignacia town.

On March 3 this year, Tarlac City Councilor Abel Ladera was shot dead in Barangay San Miguel here while buying parts for his jeepney.

Ten days later, 37-year-old Aglipayan priest Fr. William Tadena, parish priest of the Iglesia Filipina Independiente in La Paz, was killed while two of his companions were wounded after two gunmen attacked them in Barangay Guevarra in that town. ***With reports from Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, and Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

VISITING THE TROOPS JERRY CARUAL/PCPO MALACAÑANG
Soldiers of the Armed Forces' Southern Command stand in parade during the visit of President Arroyo, with Lt. Gen. Edilberto Adan, Southcom chief, in General Santos City.

John Hay developer gives up land for taxes

BAGUIO CITY—DEVELOPERS OF CAMP John Hay have relinquished control over half of their leased commercial property inside the former American base land to help resolve a tax problem that has lasted three years.

The settlement deal reduces by nine hectares the 18-hectare built-up section of the lease owned by the Fil Estate-controlled Camp John Hay Development Corp. (CJHDevco), according to the John Hay Management Corp. (JHMC), estate manager of the Camp John Hay special economic zone.

Most of the 246.9-hectare leased land owned by the firm cover forest lands.

The agreement breaks a stalemate that has frozen transactions between the government and leaseholders inside the John Hay economic zone.

CJHDevco suspended its rent payments in 2003 to protest a Supreme Court decision that nullified the tax incentives it enjoyed since 1996.

On April 30, BCDA president Narciso Abaya and BCDA chair Filadelfo Rojas Jr. terminated the CJHDevco lease for being in "material breach" of the lease agreement when it refused to pay P1.16 billion in outstanding obligations within a March 30 to April 30 deadline.

CJHDevco also has an outstanding debt of P1.7 billion in back rentals dating back to 1999.

Robert John Sobrepeña, CJHDevco chair, challenged the lease termination in court to protect the firm's P3.4-billion investments and rent payments amounting to P936.8 million. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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SC studying use of tribal laws in bid to unclog court dockets

By Delmar Cariño
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—THE Supreme Court is looking at the possibility of including customary law among indigenous communities as part of its bid to unclog the dockets of the courts through a new legal program called alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

By June next year, all courts will be mandated to resort to ADR and the SC had directed a study on the Cordillera's traditional modes of settling disputes as a means of formulating models for conflict resolution to prevent overdependence on court proceedings.

Officials of the Philippine Judicial Academy and the Justice Reform Institute Support Project (Juris) said initial discussions made with representatives of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples and Cordillera judges had opened the door of tapping the wide pool of cultural traditions that could bolster mediation.

The PJA and Juris launched the alternative dispute resolution system before judges and lawyers here on Wednesday.

ADR is an out of court mediation process that requires the courts to refer cases to accredited private mediators who will lead the parties to arrive at an amicable settlement.

Baguio, the City of San Fernando in Pampanga, San Fernando City in La Union, Bacolod City and Cagayan de Oro City have been chosen to pilot the project.

Lawyer Hector Soliman, project director of the National Judicial Institute, said Baguio was chosen as one of the model sites because it is located in a region rich in cultural traditions that feature a community-based system of conflict resolution.

Soliman said the indigenous modes of settling disputes could provide modules that could be adopted in the ADR program, particularly disputes involving succession, and family and civil relations.

In Benguet, the Kankanaey practice the "*tungtung*," a traditional gathering of elders, to settle disputes.

But Soliman said the courts and the NCIP must come up with guidelines to thresh out the conflict between customary law and national law to determine the extent of adopting indigenous modes of dispute resolution as part of the ADR.

He said provisions of the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (Ipra) that recognize customary law need to be harmonized with features of the ADR as a legal system to thresh out possible areas of conflict in the future.

The ADR was conceived in 2001 to decongest the courts, which had a backlog of more than 800,000 cases as of December 2004. The figure on case backlog does not include the SC.

Juris officials said court congestion could also be attributed to the vacancies in 677 of the 2,130 judicial positions in the country.

Lawyer Michael Andrew Ong, Juris project administrator, said Baguio would be an ideal place for ADR.

"Cultural communities resort to mediation in settling disputes and by institutionalizing this process and making it part of the formal system, the practice could become another venue to prevent disputes from lingering too much in court," Ong said.

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INQUIRER Mindanao

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Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

MOUNTAINS in Barangay Daliaon in Toril, Davao City are giving way to banana plantations as the demand for highland bananas increase. Highland bananas are supposedly sweeter. Yet questions abound whether plantations do have a 'sweet' impact on the environment and people's health.
PHOTO COURTESY OF ANANEZA ABAN

Plantations leave bitter aftertaste

By Jeffrey M. Tupas
Davao City

DAVAO CITY USED TO HAVE a lush landscape of multiple crops and trees but this has been replaced by hundreds of hectares of banana and pineapple plantations.

Environmental groups estimate that over 6,000 hectares of lands in the southern part of the city are now planted to pineapple and Cavendish bananas.

The proliferation of plantations is buoyed by the government's plan to develop two million hectares of farm lands into agribusiness ventures to generate two million jobs. The target is for half of these lands to be established in Mindanao.

Now operating in the city are Lapanday, Davao Agricultural Ventures Corp. (Davco), Dole and the Soriano-owned AMS Corp.

Promises

Many farmers are lured by these companies' promise of comfort, according to a team of experts that studied the encroachment of banana and pineapple plantations in the city's watershed areas.

"Banana and pineapple companies have substantial local support in their bid to expand because of the attractiveness of immediate funds in the hands of small farmers and employment of families," environmental lawyer Ipat Luna and political analyst Joel Rocamora said in their report commissioned by CordAid, a European funding agency backing environment preservation.

"The reality is that many small farmers find the offer economically attractive," the report conducred last year added.

Baguio District's Cadalian barangay chair Alex Angco said that without the plantations, they would never have decent lives.

"We can now afford to buy TV and we have jobs," Angco said.

But many groups wanted a moratorium on the expansion of plantations that are said to endanger the sources of water, among other environmental and health concerns.

For Dr. Romy Quijano, a toxicologist and professor at the University of the Philippines College of Medicine in Manila, a moratorium on expansion is actually the least of the demands.

"We should stop the practice of the companies using very toxic chemicals that are poisoning the water, poisoning the people and making the environment unsafe for the current and future generations," Quijano said.

Headache

Timoteo Adon, 60, said the plantations have become the farmers' headache.

"After farmers of our village entered into a lease agreement with the company, lives have became more miserable," said Adon, who leased his one-hectare land to Davco for P10,000 a year for five years.

Adon got the lumpsum of P50,000 for the contract.

"After I received the money, I realized that the amount was not enough. I began to think of what I would do for five years with the P50,000," Adon said.

His two sons are regular employees in the plantation but their salaries are not enough for their basic expenses.

A study of three barangays in the city where there are banana and pineapple plantations backed Adon's statement.

Conducted by University of the Philippines-Mindanao researcher Arve Bañez, the study had mostly plantation workers from Tawan-Tawa in Baguio District, Daliaon in Toril and Mandug in Tigatto as respondents.

The report of the study released in April 2005 countered the claim of economic stability in these areas. Bañez said that the average income of the workers in Tawan-Tawa increased to P4,499 from P2,294, and those in Mandug to P5,736 from P2,977.

But she said the actual wage received in Daliaon dropped due to low salaries, which are below the minimum set by the government, and the huge opportunity cost for those who have abandoned farming to work for the plantation.

Contradictory

The workers had a positive perception of the plantations, she said, but when examined closely, some answers contradicted the favorable regard.

More than half of them agreed that the plantation gave them jobs but an equal percentage agreed that they were dispensable. Most said the company was not providing quality employment.

More than half said it was difficult to bargain for higher salaries and other economic benefits with the company, according to the study.

The costs of allowing the operations of plantations far outweighed their purported benefits, she said.

Among the cited costs were skin allergies, burns and other diseases. Added to this is the longer hours that the workers had to put in to reach their quota.

The people were also concerned about air pollution, contamination of ground and surface water, soil degradation and increased humidity.

Quijano asked if there really is an economic gain considering the destroyed environment. "What they are computing is the direct gains from selling and exporting bananas. They leave aside the destruction," he added.

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SPLASH

Om's world: Child prodigy, 6, paints from her dreams

From page A1

abstract and the others are in identifiable forms. The constant features: predominant blue, pink, red and yellow colors in bold, happy strokes.

Guijo, a prolific painter who paints most of the day, said he discovered Om's talent when he made the child hold a Chinese paintbrush at 11 months.

"Her first output looked like Chinese calligraphy. She used India ink on Oslo paper. Several months later, she used watercolor, still on Oslo paper," he said.

Midnight sleeper

By her parents' account, Om went to bed at midnight in her first five years. Her mind was so active that whenever anyone tried to dissuade her from her nightly painting, she threw a tantrum.

When she was 3 or 4, her paintings had clearer form and had more colors. She could also prepare paints and clean brushes by herself, and discovered more color combinations that she thought "magical," Guijo said.

Most of her subjects were dinosaurs, birds and butterflies, houses, flowers, rainbows, human forms, and all the things she saw and liked.

She painted five to six hours daily, and came up with three to four paintings at the end of the day, said Guijo, who worked beside his daughter.

"Stopping Om from painting and encouraging her to play or do other things would trigger a tantrum and long crying spells," he said, recalling the time when he walked the child for almost an hour around the neighborhood to comfort her.

Discipline

As she approached her fifth year, Om became more disciplined and would paint for five straight hours by herself, Guijo said.

Of her 30 paintings in acrylic, the most attractive is the expressionist "Angels on the Playground."

Again, it is a dream interpreted in a painting—herself playing with angels and other children with blue wings (boys) and pink wings (girls).

And since Om did not yet know her ABCs, Guijo told her to "sign" her works with "a moon and mountains beside each other," which led the child to form the letters O and M.

Special school

Now that she is 6 years old and in kindergarten 2 at the Sped-Isec, Om has discovered the world of other children. She still paints, but now prefers to play with the neighbors' kids.

Her parents enrolled her at Sped because they believe the school would help her realize her artistic potential in the course of receiving a normal education.

"Om did not take a qualifying or assessment test. She was qualified [to enter] Sped-Isec because of her works, and she excelled in that field. Her exceptionality is in her blending of colors," said Lilia Ramos, coordinator of the school's "Head Start Program for the Gifted, the Creative and Talented," which is for kindergarten 1 and 2 students.

Ramos, a 2003 Metrobank Outstanding Teacher, said that in other aspects, Om was like any other kindergarten pupil, except that she had to work double-time because she came to the school with no academic preparation.

Prodigy

Joy Cañoso, 33, one of Om's three kindergarten teachers, considers her a prodigy in art but an average student in academics.

"So far, she [has proved] exceptional in painting, but not necessarily in other forms of art. Not only does she have mature color choices, she also has good fashion sense," said Cañoso, who also observed that her pupil always completed whatever work was assigned to her.

Sped-Isec's Head Start Curriculum, which was started three years ago, is interest-based, meaning the kindergarten pupils are exposed to their "specialties" every Friday at 9-10:30 a.m. The teachers call it "Sensory Perception/Talent/Creativity Day."

According to Cañoso, Om has yet to overcome nerves and a perfectionist attitude over activities that she thinks she cannot finish.

Play before painting

But she always looks forward to the first Friday of the month, which is devoted to arts and crafts classes. (Cooking lessons fall on the second Friday. The third Friday is devoted to theater arts and a talent showcase. On the fourth Friday, the children play games, and on the last Friday, they watch films.)

Although relieved that Om has now started formal schooling, the artist in Guijo sighs over her "not being an artist anymore," having stopped daytime painting since December.

But the doting father pointed out that Om was still drawing "anything" every night from 9 to 10 p.m., after which she had to be cajoled to sleep.

"Prior to her attending kindergarten classes, Om's friends would call her and she would say, 'Wait, I'm still painting.' But now, it's play before painting," he said.

But he noted that Om's emotional quotient had risen since she started mingling with other children.

Lucky mom

Jyh Ming, 31, an occasional painter herself, takes her two children to and from school.

"I am lucky that I am the mother of such a child. She is a gift to me," said Jyh Ming, who conducts yoga classes in their home on Ybiernas Avenue beside the UP Iloilo City campus.

Jyh Ming said she practiced yoga when she was pregnant with Om and read to the baby the works of Eastern writers Kahlil Gibran and Rabindranath Tagore.

Also musically inclined, Jyh Ming recalled Om making noises and moving to the tunes of the boy band Boyzone at the age of two months.

Now 6 and very affectionate, Om has discovered dancing. She also sings her own compositions, prompting her mother to laugh and exclaim: "She just might come up with a new art performance where she dances, sings and paints at the same time."

2nd exhibit

The Dueñas couple are preparing for Om's second one-child exhibit of paintings in acrylic on paper board, temporarily titled "My Dream."

But Om is now less passionate about painting, having discovered the joys of watching the Powerpuff Girls and Nickelodeon on cable TV.

The family home is devoid of the typical furniture and decorated only with Guijo and Om's art works.

And for the moment, the child artist and her brother Blue Heart are oblivious to the world around them as they lie stomach down on a mat, giggling over TV cartoons.

CHINESE BRUSH in hand, Om, all of 2, used water-based paints and already could identify secondary colors. Today, her teachers say she has an exceptional talent for blending colors and consider her a prodigy in art. GUIJO DUEÑAS

GUIJO DUEÑAS

JUST NORMAL KIDS, Om Dueñas and elder brother Blue Heart, who are into playing and are glued to the Powerpuff Girls and Nickelodeon after school.

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Mikey Arroyo...

From page A1

on self-imposed exile in the United States, has instead become a frequent flyer, traveling back and forth to Manila.

The INQUIRER learned yesterday that Mikey was in Manila, having arrived on Sept. 28 from Singapore via Philippine Airlines flight PR 504.

Congressmen close to Mikey yesterday confirmed that the presidential son was in the country. He arrived two weeks ago and he and his family were staying with his in-laws, they said.

A close friend of Mikey's said the congressman had visited four towns in the second district of Pampanga in the past two weeks.

"He is in Pampanga," said the friend, who requested not to be identified. "In fact, he attended an event at the Basa Air Base on Friday."

He was also sighted at the Baguio Country Club in Baguio City Friday night.

Philippine Air Force spokesperson Col. Restituto Padilla Jr. confirmed that Mikey graced the anniversary celebration of the 355th Engineering Wing at Basa Air Base in Floridablanca, Pampanga, on Friday. He said Mikey was with Rep. Gilbert Teodoro, a PAF reservist.

Mikey first arrived in Manila on Sept. 4 with his wife Angela and their two young daughters after spending nearly two months in the US.

He left for San Francisco sometime in mid-September and flew back to Manila after another two weeks abroad.

Coming and going

Even the source who tipped off the INQUIRER that Mikey had left for San Francisco soon after his mother, President Macapagal-Arroyo, left for New York City to preside over a United Nations Security Council meeting, was surprised to learn that the President's son was back.

"Really? He's back? But he just left," the source said, saying he saw Mikey at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) Centennial Terminal 2 "wearing sandals" sometime in the middle of last month.

The source said Mikey left on PAL's 10:30 p.m. direct flight to San Francisco. Apparently, he had been keeping his arrivals and departures as quiet as possible.

When Mikey first arrived in Manila on Sept. 4, his Batasan office released a statement saying that he had returned to celebrate the birthdays of his wife and younger brother Dato.

The statement also said that Mikey's stay in Manila would be brief and that he would be returning to the US.

Both father and son, as well as the President's brother-in-law, Negros Rep. Iggy Arroyo, had been accused by jueteng whistle-blower Sandra Cam of accepting protection money from the illegal numbers game.

Official leave

While the Arroyos denied the allegation, the First Gentleman and Mikey volunteered to go on exile to the United States in July in an attempt to help Ms Arroyo stave off the political crisis that had hit her administration.

Mikey also went on official leave as Pampanga representative.

The First Gentleman returned to Manila in August to attend the funeral of his eldest sister. He has since gone back to the US. *With Michael Lim Ubac and Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

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Rising gas prices and expensive fuel do not spell the end

By Butch J. Pajarillo
Contributor

THE ALMOST WEEKLY increases in the price of gasoline have forced me to cut back on costs and adjust my lifestyle. The price increases, justified or not, have been rapid. I fill up the fuel tank, knowing that gasoline prices will rise again the next week.

Home-based

Having retired from an office job to enjoy a balance in work and family life, I am now an entrepreneur based at a home—office in the suburbs. The technologies of fax, e-mail and the Internet have afforded me savings in time and effort. Thus, I could limit my business commutes to Manila, Mandaluyong, Quezon City and Makati to twice a week.

While there, I fulfill multiple chores like buying groceries at supermarkets, stopping over at bookstores for new titles and office supplies, and bringing my college-age teens home from school.

With the current gasoline prices, I save by using the expressway. My foot steps lightly on the gas pedal at about 75 km an hour. I can hear my engine purring with efficiency at those speeds.

Tune up

I avoid driving during peak hours. And I make sure that the car is tuned-up, its tire pressures are correct, and it gets an oil change on schedule.

When going to Quezon City, Mandaluyong or San Juan, I leave my car at a parking lot in Glorietta and take the train. This way, I save on gasoline, wear-and-tear of parts, and time. For me, the mass railway transit is an excellent social service.

I take the FX, jeepney and bus whenever I am not in a hurry. Apparently, I am not the only one with that idea because the waiting time for car-pool FX units with vacant seats has lengthened by about five to 10 minutes.

It's bad for the travel business, but I am like many who stay home or postpone vacation plans because fuel prices are cutting into the budget. The unpredictable climb in gas prices makes ordinary Juans and entrepreneurs like me stay liquid. Wallets running on empty are not good prospects for shops at the malls.

On days when the family takes de-stressing drives out of town, we plot the destination routes ahead to conserve gasoline. I bought a new road Atlas because there are new, fuel-saving shortcuts to the north, south and east of Manila. No more of those mindless treks to nowhere.

Down to one

Usually, I drive my family to restaurant dinners twice a month. That's now down to one. Fortunately, my daughter is studying how to become a chef. We stay home to watch movies on discs. (Please believe me when I say we watch only original discs). Air-conditioners are open only between 9 p.m. and 3:30 a.m.

I had dreamed of buying one of those 4 x 4 muscle trucks, but I scaled down plans to a 1.3 cc or an SUV. If gasoline prices go up to P100 a liter, I will buy a bicycle for everybody in the family.

My adjustments may look like I am trading value for cost. Not true. For instance, I will still drive for my mother-in-law anytime.

Cellphone theft takes new form

CELLULAR PHONE TECHNOLOGY is not the only one undergoing innovation. Even the modus operandi of cell phone thieves are changing.

Two men were arrested yesterday morning after a string of mobile phone thefts that took them through the cities of Valenzuela, Caloocan and Malabon, where their luck ran out.

Their strategy?

Hire a cab which they used as their getaway vehicle after running off with the cellphones of stores selling electronic load.

However, Marvin Santos, 31, of Talipapa, Novaliches, Quezon City and Etchel Atienza, 31, of Sta. Quiteria, Caloocan City, pushed their luck and got caught.

According to cab driver Eduardo de Guzman, the duo hailed his taxi in Sta. Quiteria yesterday morning and asked to be taken to Valenzuela City, near City Hall.

One of the two men got off and returned after three to five minutes. He was then asked to drive them to Caloocan and Malabon, where he was told to make similar stops.

At their ninth stop near a neighborhood store at 56 M. Santos St., Santolan, Malabon, they were chased by traffic enforcers and arrested.

It was then that De Guzman learned that they had been store hopping and stealing cell phones.

According to investigator PO2 Peter Rios, modus operandi of the duo was to buy electronic load from stores.

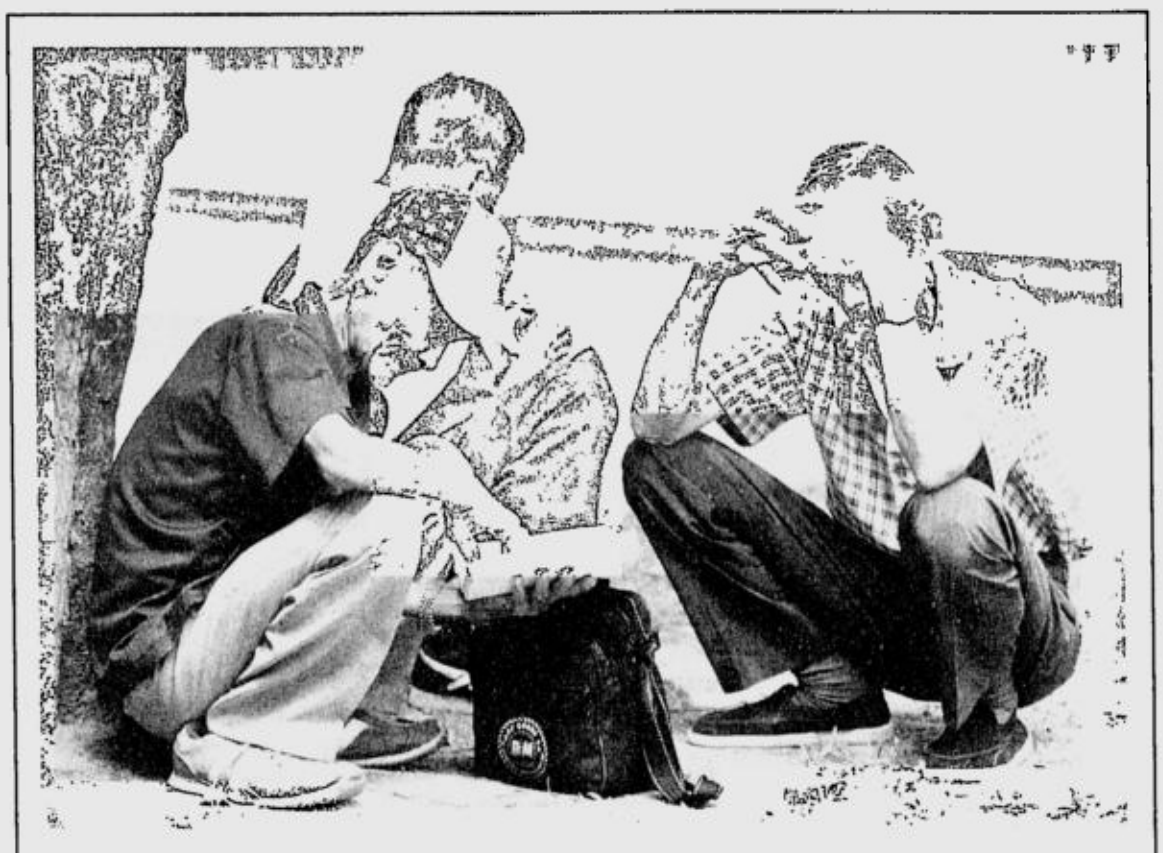
While waiting for the load to get through, they would ask the store clerk if they could take a look at their cellphone to check if the correct number was encoded.

"*Pagkabigay ng* victim *ng* phone *tatakbo na yung* suspects (After handing the phone, the suspects would make a run for it)," the investigator said.

Rios said robbers with similar strategies always go in pairs and ride either in a car or a motorcycle.

Before Santos and Atienza were arrested, the store helper screamed for help and alerted traffic enforcers in the area. *Nancy C. Carvajal*

Munti drug rehab feels like home



FORGOTTEN HEROES LYN RILLON
Epifanio Balala (left), Eusebio Orene (center) and Gregorio Castillo wait outside the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office in Camp Aguinaldo following up their disability claims. Balala was a World War II guerrilla, while Castillo saw action in the Korean War where he received a Gold Star medal.

By Jocelyn R. Uy

MUNTINLUPA CITY HAS ITS OWN "big brother house" for drug dependents.

From a dingy billiard hall and beer house, the Muntinlupa Renewal Home (MRH) in Barangay Putatan was established in 2002 as a sanctuary for drug dependents undergoing rehabilitation.

The MRH was built to look and feel like home, said MRH program head Robert Galano.

"It's like Big Brother house," Galano said, referring to the reality show "Pinoy Big Brother" where 12 strangers live in one house for 100 days without contact with the outside world.

But, he pointed out, there were no cameras to watch its 15 patients' every move and that they would only be isolated for the first 45 days of the six-month treatment period.

Weekend home visit

"After one and a half months, they could already go home on weekends," he said.

Managed by the city's Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Office (Dapco) with the help of New Beginnings Foundation (NBF), the MRH applies the family-based approach in treating patients.

It works with the families of patients to determine the causes of drug dependence.

At MRH, patients share in household chores: they cook, clean house, do laundry, and are treated to leisure activities like basketball.

But one essential part in the rehabilitation process is the journal writing where one could vent his feelings, said Galano.

On its third founding anniversary last Oct. 11, Galano announced that the center already helped 124 patients, and are expected to reach 140 or 150 by yearend.

Former dependents

Galano said the 13 MRH counselors were rehabilitated drug dependents like himself and its volunteers were recovering drug dependents.

He said that he had been hooked on drugs for 15 years before he went to NBF in 1996.

"They call me Kuya Obet here. I feel inspired to help these patients," he related.

He said the MRH would be moving to a bigger location in Barangay Bayanan along the city's baywalk by next year.

Galano said no one got kicked out of the center.

"They will leave this place because they are ready to take on a new life," he said.

MetroBriefs

700 hectares of land 'missing'

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

A COUNCILOR of Muntinlupa City is asking the local council to commission a survey of the city's boundaries to locate 700-hectares of 'missing' land. Councilor Raul Corro said data from the Land Management Bureau and the Department of Budget and Management showed that Muntinlupa had a total land area of 3,975 hectares. But records of the City Planning Office showed that the city occupies a 4,675-hectare land. "The discrepancy translated to less funds, projects and programs for city residents," said Corro. *Jocelyn R. Uy*

35 call center school grads

MANDALUYONG City recently welcomed 35 students who graduated from a three-month call center training course at the Rizal Technological University, the public information office reported. Mayor Neptali Gonzales II has already ordered the city public employment and services office to assist the graduates in getting jobs. The city was the first to offer a course for those wanting to work in call centers, which have rapidly mushroomed in the metropolis. To improve the next training, which would begin on Monday, the university will be introducing new training modules to the curriculum. *Edson C. Tandoc Jr.*

Makati cops get free 'do

ILLUSTRATION: ANTHONY MISTADES

SENIOR Insp. Delia Ingala had a strange feeling in her new short, layered hairstyle. Ingala was among Makati Police District members who availed of a free trim organized by the MPD with Kumpare (Kumakalinga sa Mamamayan Para sa Reporma Inc.), a nongovernment organization composed of businessmen. The daylong free service held at the Makati City Hall quadrangle yesterday was aimed at boosting the morale of the MPD personnel. *Jocelyn R. Uy*

Las Piñas jobs fair bears fruit

ABOUT 1,400 more Las Piñas City residents got jobs locally and overseas through the city's "Trabaho Para Sa Mamayan" program which held a job fair last Oct. 12. It brought to 9,000 the Las Piñeros given employment since early this year. Mayor Imelda Aguilar said the high percentage of employment was a manifestation of the city's continuous effort to provide jobs to its residents.

Pinoy CSI ...

From page A20

tification of most of the victims that greatly eased the suffering of their families.

In 1989, she was sent to Mindanao as administrative officer of the Region 11 crime laboratory office. Later, she also had stints in Regions 10 and 13.

She returned to Camp Crame in May 2001 to head the physical identification section. In October last year, she was named chief of Quezon City's crime laboratory.

As chief, Papa supervises the SOCO's work in crime scenes for gathering of evidence, technical analysis of recovered evidence, and administrative work. She has two companies, Alpha and Bravo (one is headed by a woman, the other a man), composed of four to five members, who work alternately.

She was only a few months into her job when Quezon City was awarded Best District Crime Lab for 2005.

Reliable

Quezon City Police District director Chief Supt. Nicasio Radovan Jr. has only good words about Papa: "She's very reliable, respectable, punctual. She's very available. When we need results from her laboratory, we get them immediately. If we need her even in the middle of the night at a crime scene, she's there."

Mother to a 23-year-old daughter, Papa said her work, though tiring and taxing, was very rewarding. "As corny as it sounds, I love my job. It feels satisfying if you're able to solve crime through forensic investigation."

But Papa said she found it annoying every time people compared her work to what they see on the American television show "Crime Scene Investigation."

"People will ask, 'How long will your forensic tests take?' And when we answer, one month, they go: '*Bakit sa* CSI, *isang araw lang* (How come it takes only one day on CSI)?" she said.

At par

Filipinos will be surprised to know that "technically, the Philippines is at par with other countries when it comes to crime scene investigation," she said. A colleague who works in the Evidence Response Team of the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation once told Papa: "You Filipinos are good."

When told it took one month for Filipino forensic experts to process evidence, Papa's friend said that was fast compared with the US, where it usually took six months because of the sheer volume of evidence to be examined.

"We Filipinos are skilled. We know what to do. The only problem is attitude, and commitment" from the forensic investigators, she said. "We seem to forget that machines are only tools. It's still the brain that makes them work. When high-tech equipment bogs down, we can simply go back to the basics," Papa said.

Naturally 'usisero'

The attitude of the general public about crime scenes also had to change, she said. "Filipinos are naturally *usisero* (nosy), but they should learn to respect the crime scene, because if they contaminate it, our investigation will suffer," she added.

Papa recalled one incident when she and her team saw several cigarette butts near a murder victim. They began carefully collecting what they thought were important pieces of evidence.

They were horrified to learn later, that the butts were left by responding barangay officers.

This is a big no-no. Papa said: "The crime scene should be able to tell you what happened." Whether blood was spurted, spewed or sprayed would tell a different story, she said. But if somebody wiped that blood away, the story would be lost forever.

INQUIRER Platinum Code

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Pinoy CSI relies on intuition

SCIENCE and intuition work for Chief Insp. Filipinas Francisco-Papa, who says her fascination for crime-solving began when as a child she read Sherlock Holmes. ERIK ARAZAS

By DJ Yap

A WOMAN'S INTUITION MAY come in handy when dealing with a crime, a suspect, or a mystery.

Chief Inspector Filipinas Francisco-Papa has learned to listen to that nagging sense of doubt, that voice in her head that tells her something isn't quite right.

Papa, a forensic expert, knows it is important to ask the right questions.

The chief of the crime laboratory of the Quezon City Police District, Papa admits she loves a good puzzle. As a child, she read the adventures of Sherlock Holmes in crime-solving.

One of her cases was a Black Saturday fire that gutted a single-story semi-concrete house in Barangay Lagro. Four bodies were found inside, burnt beyond recognition.

At first it seemed like the fire was caused by an overheated electric fan, Papa said.

Questions

But as scene-of-the-crime operatives began processing the house for evidence, she said certain details did not add up: Why were the victims unable to escape when they were so near the door? What was a gas tank doing in the living room? Why were furniture blocking the exit?

She asked the doctor who did the autopsy if the victims were stabbed or shot. No, she was told, they died of suffocation. On a hunch, she asked the doctor again if he noticed the color of victims' blood. He said it was pink.

"Was it the color of cherry?" Papa asked. "How did you know that, Ma'am?" the doctor wondered.

The color resulted from carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that could cause dizziness, even unconsciousness, Papa said. "The victims were alive when the fire started. They were unconscious when they died."

It was a case of arson, she concluded. The suspect, a member of the household allegedly nursing a grudge, was now on trial for the crime, Papa said.

New drugs

In July, the Cubao police asked Papa for assistance after confiscating from a condominium unit several drums with pink and orange capsules. The owner claimed they were food supplements—calcium glucomate and ascorbic acid.

Initial tests supported the claim, the items testing negative for ketamine, metamphetamine hydrochloride (shabu), and other illegal substances.

Police wondered if they made a mistake, but Papa thought otherwise.

"If they were really food supplements, why were they in plastic capsules and packed in drums?" she asked. Under her supervision, the crime laboratory did another round of tests and finally discovered something: the orange capsules contained 97 percent levorphanol, an opium derivative now being used as a party drug. The pink ones had dextromoramide, another party drug.

The discovery led not only to the confiscation of the illegal drugs, but also revealed that narcotic syndicates were now selling new types of drugs that the police were not yet aware of, Papa said.

Youth activist

Papa started working in the crime laboratory in 1972. After studying medical technology at Far Eastern University, the former youth activist who rallied against the Marcos government applied for a job in the Women's Auxiliary Corps.

The firstborn in a brood of six, she said her decision to join the police force might have been influenced by her father, Prudente Francisco, a military general.

After completing the grueling training, Papa joined the medico-legal office at Camp Crame, with Desiderio Moraleda as mentor and brother-figure. She worked there until 1989.

In June 1987, Philippine Air Lines Flight HS 748 crashed in Mt. Ugo in Itugon, Benguet, killing all 45 passengers and five crew members. It was the second worst air disaster in Philippine history, after the Cebu Pacific DC 9 crash in Claveria, Misamis Oriental, in February 1998, killing all 99 passengers and five crew members.

Papa led a team that examined the remains of the Benguet crash victims for identification. "We studied their dentures. We also took note of their uniforms and other clues that could identify them," she said.

Thanks from Cory

Former President Corazon Aquino later sent her a note, thanking her for the speedy iden-

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New Archer in hot water

By Jasmine W. Payo

LA SALLE OFFICIALS ARE PRESSING THE hunt for those who may have had a hand in the eligibility scandal currently rocking the school even as reports continue to persist that the Archers may have fielded two ineligible players during their 2004 UAAP championship run.

Three sources told the INQUIRER that another player also submitted spurious high school records to gain eligibility in 2003 and played for two seasons with the Archers.

The three independent sources identified the same player. One of them gave an account of how he made it to the team while the other was privy to why he was cut. "He wasn't good enough" for coach Franz Pumaren, one source said.

Lito Tanjuatco, a member of the school's board of trustees and board of regents, also said he isn't aware of any other player who may have been also ineligible.

"As far as what we have uncovered, there's only one player," Tanjuatco said. "Our investigation is focused only on that player."

La Salle had already admitted that one of its basketball players had submitted fake documents to gain eligibility to the school and to the team. The INQUIRER tried to protect the identity of the first player but numerous Internet message boards already identified him as back-up center Mark Benitez.

La Salle officials are still waiting for Benitez to air his side on the controversy. In the meantime, the school had already formed a four-man committee to investigate the scandal.

Dr. Carmelita Quebengco, who formed the investigative panel, had also denied the existence of another player with spurious papers based on school records that show only one player is in question.

But according to one of the sources, Benitez and the other player both went through the same process to get into La Salle. The two of them took the Philippine Educational Placement Test Certificate of Rating (PEPTCR) in 2001 and failed.

The PEPTCR is an examination a student may take "in lieu of, or in the absence of a high school diploma."

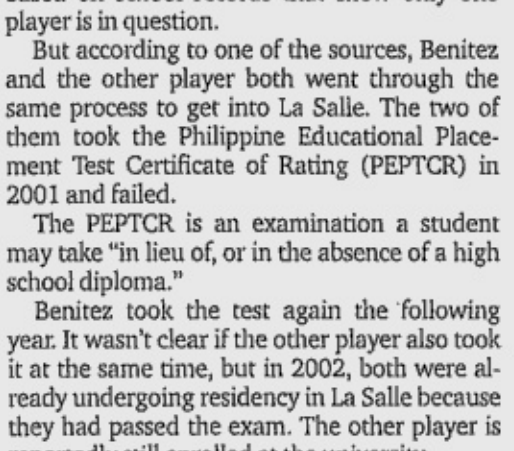
Benitez took the test again the following year. It wasn't clear if the other player also took it at the same time, but in 2002, both were already undergoing residency in La Salle because they had passed the exam. The other player is reportedly still enrolled at the university.

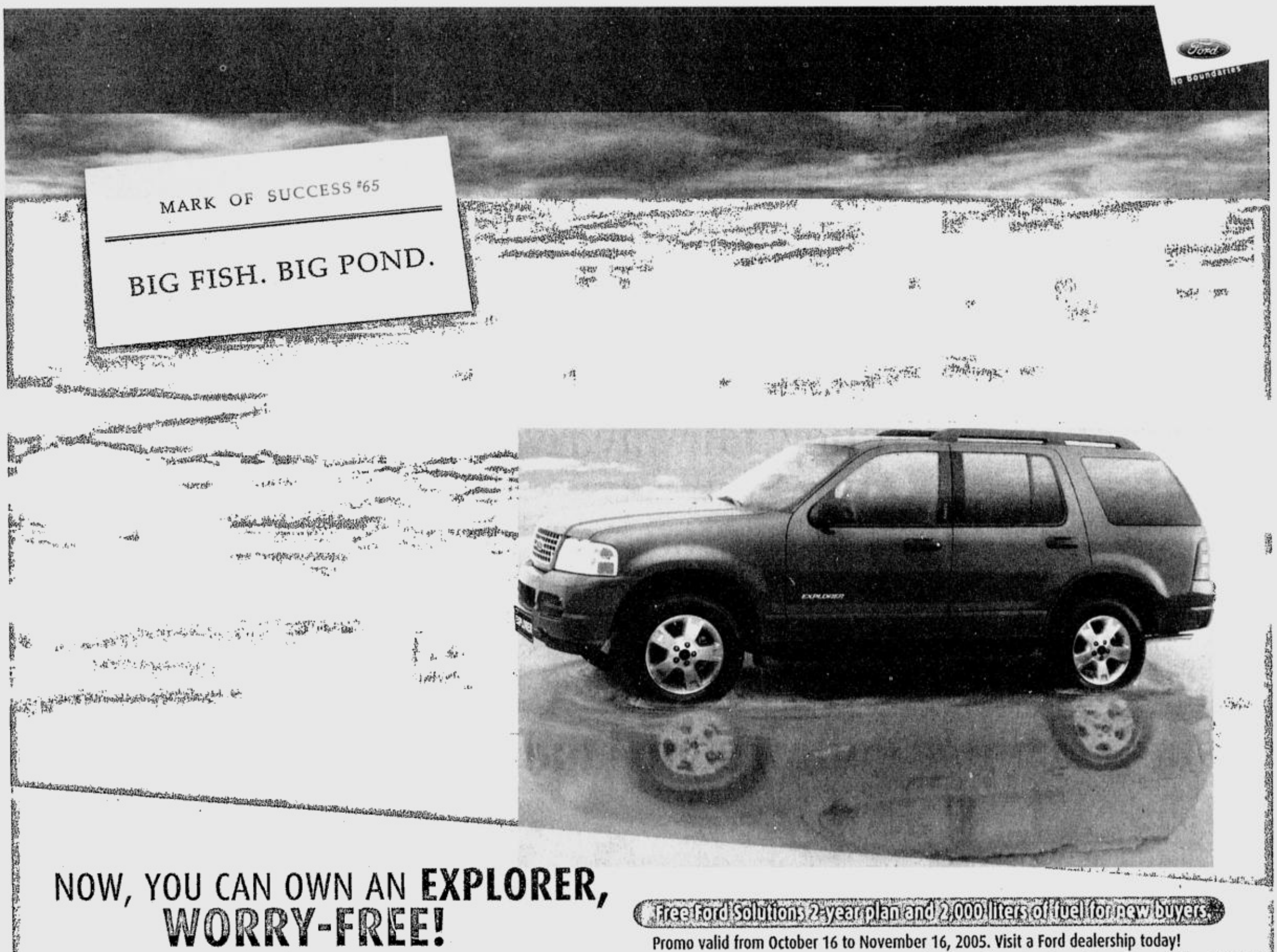
The UAAP board said that it will let La Salle complete its internal investigation before tackling the case in a meeting set on the third week of November.

"We will base our decision on their findings," said league president Fr. Maximino Rendon, CM, of host Adamson University.

Fil-Am netters due

FIL-AMERICAN netters Eric Taino and Cecil Mamiit will arrive in the last week of this month to acclimatize themselves for the coming 23rd Southeast Asian Games. The duo will be coming in fresh from participating in several ATP events in the United States. The Philippines is shooting to win at least four of the seven gold medals to be staked in tennis with the Mamiit-Taino duo expected to be the combination to beat in men's doubles. Meanwhile, equipment to be used in gymnastics, athletics, shooting and aerobics have finally arrived, Philsoc operations chief Richie Garcia said.





CHEERDANCE CHAMP: The LA Gear-sponsored Salinggawi Dance Troupe of UST recently captured its fourth straight title in the UAAP Non-Stop Cheerdance Competition at the Araneta Coliseum.

Budget, rift with mayors hound SEAG

By Marc Anthony Reyes

WITH JUST 44 DAYS BEFORE the Southeast Asian Games fires off, event organizers are still trying to fix two major concerns: A bloated opening and closing ceremony budget and a rift with Metro Manila mayors.

Philippine SEAG Organizing Committee secretary general Steve Hontiveros yesterday said they are going to slash the amount appropriated for the opening and closing rites which was reportedly pegged at P46 million.

Hontiveros didn't confirm nor deny the amount of the original proposal but said they will definitely prune down the cost of the ceremonies which will be held at the Quirino Grandstand in Luneta with an estimated crowd attendance of 250,000.

"Definitely we won't spend that amount, the congressman (former representative and Philsoc chief Peping Cojuangco) won't allow it," said Hontiveros over the phone while waiting for his flight to Cebu City.

He said he will check up on the Cebu SEAG preparations.

Until now, the Philsoc is still short of the P1 billion SEAG hosting requirement even as organizers are still reportedly hoping for a last-minute bailout from the government which has already shelled out P300 million.

Philsoc officials noted that the Vietnam SEAG two years ago and Busan Asian Games in 2002 were funded heavily by the Vietnam and Korean governments, respectively.

The amount was apart from the P200 million the government has been committed to spend for the athletes' training and SEAG allowance through the Philippine Sports Commission.

Hontiveros also confirmed the misunderstanding between the Philsoc and some Metro Manila local officials, particularly Pasay City Mayor Peewee Trinidad, who reportedly ordered SEAG campaign materials to be removed from the city streets.

Strong finish keys SLR's victory over Coca-Cola

By June Navarro

TUBOD, LANAO DEL NORTE—STA. LUcia Realty unleashed a strong finishing kick to repulse Coca-Cola, 89-79, in the San Mig Coffee-PBA Fiesta Conference last night before an overflow crowd at the Mindanao Civic Center here.

Luke Whitehead presided over the Realtors' scoring binge in the payoff period, accounting for 10 points in a dizzying 13-4 run to completely take control of a match the Tigers had the reins to three-fourths of the way.

Trailing by as many as nine points, the Realtors slowly worked their way up, inching closer at the end of the third, 61-65, before Whitehead fired on all cylinders to help the Realtors chalk up a second straight win.

While rookie-sensation Alex Cabagnot held the crowd and his defenders spellbound during Sta. Lucia's triumph over Barangay Ginebra last week, it was fellow freshman Cesar Catli's time to shine this time.

Selected 10th overall by the Realtors, Catli fired four three-pointers and finished with 12 points as the former FEU Tamaraw from Bukidnon wowed fans in this southern town.

Whitehead tossed in 35 points and Chester Tolomia added 16, including two triples from way beyond the arc as coach Alfrancis Chua and the Realtors improved to 2-1.

The Tigers, who could only get 16 points from import Alex Carcamo, dropped to their second defeat in three games. It was Carcamo's tip-in with a fraction of a second left that carried the Tigers to their only win at the expense of the San Miguel Beermen.

One of three imports not leading his team in scoring, the 6-foot-6 Carcamo is probably on his way to getting a pink slip, team sources said.

Meanwhile, the Purefoods Chunkee Giants hope to end an eight-game losing streak against the Beermen when the two teams collide at the Araneta Coliseum today.

"I will challenge my players to end our slump against San Miguel," said Gregorio, whose Giants (2-1) are now tied for second with the Barangay Ginebra Kings. "We always have a hard time neutralizing them (Beermen)."

On the other hand, Red Bull battles the Air21 Express in the other game.

The Barakos are carrying a 1-2 record while the Express split their two games.

The scores:

STA. LUCIA 89—Whitehead 35, Tolomia 16, Catli 12, Calimag 10, Cabagnot 5, Omolon 4, Gonzales 3, Mendoza 2, Agapito 2, Aquino 0.

COCA-COLA 79—Peek 21, Carcamo 16, Antonio 15, Miranda 8, Abarrientos 7, Arigo 6, Wainwright 4, Juinio 2, Rañeses 0.

Quarters: 21-24, 44-40, 61-65, 89-79

ALASKA'S Tee Mc Clary drives against Purefoods' Roger Yap in their game Friday. RYAN LIM

Miñoza stays 3rd in Bangkok

FRANKIE MIÑOZA OF THE Philippines kept himself in the title hunt with an even-par 71 yesterday as Chinese Taipei veteran Lu Wen-teh pounced on the struggling plays of Thais Thammanoon Srirot and Chawalit Plaphol to seize the third round lead in the Bangkok Airways Open.

The 42-year-old Lu carded a solid four-under-par 67 for a 205 aggregate over 54 holes at the challenging Santiburi Samui Country Club and will take a one-shot lead into the final round over Thammanoon, who ballooned to a 74.

Miñoza, the former Asian No. 1 seeking to end a long title drought, stayed in third place with a 209 total. Like Lu, the 45-year-old has yet to go over par in three days after earlier rounds of 68 and 70.

Miñoza, a proven winner with six titles in Japan, was rock solid with birdies on the ninth and 12th holes offsetting bogeys on the third and 10th holes. He made big par saves on 17 and 18, draining an eight footer and chipping close at the last.

"I'm hitting the ball good but you have to be patient on this course," said Miñoza. "The two par saves late in the round kept me in it, I'm hanging in there."

Thamanoon's cousin, Chawalit, who was one off the pace at the halfway stage, was a beaten man as the Santiburi Samui course, which players labelled as a "beast" chewed him up. After previous rounds of 65 and 68, he stumbled to a 79 that included a triple bogey, and fell seven off the pace in the $200,000 Asian Tour event.

Miñoza warned that Sunday's final day showdown could yet prove to be as unpredictable as today's proceedings.

"Four shots is nothing on this course. You cannot get angry out there or else the course will bite you. We saw that today," said Miñoza.

Lu, who has posted four top-10s and a tied 11th in his last six Asian Tour events, was calm and collected in taming the undulating Santiburi course, shooting five birdies against lone bogey.

SPORTSWATCH

Pinoy boxers join Tammer Cup

A CRACK team of seven Filipino boxers will compete with Europe's best in the 26th Tammer Cup on Oct. 19-24 in Tampere, Finland. Asian champion Harry Tanamor (lightfly); Warlito Parrenas (fly); Joan Tipon (bantam); JOegin LAdon (feather) and Mark Jason Malligen (lightwelter) comprise the Philippine team. Supporting the team is the First Gentleman Foundation, Ginebra San Miguel, Philippine Sports Commission, Accel and Pacific Heights. The Tammer Cup is part of the country's preparation for the coming SEA Games boxing competitions which will be held from Nov. 28 to Dec. 3 in Bacolod City.

Pacquiao gets offer from Espinosa

MANNY Pacquiao may have two-time world champion Luisito Espinosa as sparmate as he prepares for his much-awaited Jan. 21 rematch with Mexican Erik Morales in Las Vegas, Nevada. Noted boxing analyst Hermie Rivera reveals in tonight's GTE Sports-produced "The Sports List" from 9:15-9:45 p.m. over NBN Channel 4 that Espinosa, noting his similar fighting style with Morales, has offered to be one of Pacquiao's sparring mates. Also featured in the PCSO-sponsored Sunday show hosted by sports journalist Howie Basilio are Crispa hotshot Atoy Co, the Philippine bowling, swimming and weightlifting teams, and the torch relay for the coming Philippine 23rd SEA Games.

Calaca hosts TM Go for Gold

TWO Asian champions-Mitchel Martinez and Harry Tanamor- banner a star-studded cast as the Touch Mobile Go for Gold goes to Calaca, Batangas, this weekend. Venue of the 12-bout card is the Calaca Multi-Purpose Gym. Hosting the event sanctioned by the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines is Calaca Mayor Dr. Nas Ona. The TM Go for Gold is sponsored by TM, Accel, Pacific Heights and San Miguel Corp. The event is being aired nationwide every Sunday from 9:30-10:30 p.m. over NBN-4.

Salim loses to Mexican WBC champ

FILIPINO Reman Salim failed in his bid to win the World Boxing Council Youth superbantam title when he was knocked out by Mexican titleholder Miguel "Mickey Mouse" Roman in the fourth round at the El Poliforo in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. The end came at the 2:59 of the fourth round and sent the lanky Salim's record to 9-3. Roman improved to 13-0 with his ninth KO. *Salven Lagumbay*

Samsung Beach volley on Golf Power Plus

GOLF Power Plus features the start of the Samsung Women's Inter-Collegiate Beach Volleyball Challenge this afternoon. College of St. Benilde Team 3 takes on World Citi Colleges in an exciting elimination match. The game was played at the beach volleyball court of the Cantada Sports Center in Taguig City. Golf Power Plus is aired nationwide at 3 p.m., Sundays on RPN-9, and is aired worldwide on ABS-CBN Global's TFC/Pinoy Central TV. It is supported by Samsung, Tanduay Rhum, PCSO and Mapecon. Fistorama follows at 4 p.m.

Jacinto turns back Marcelo

DINO Jacinto made a big comeback midway the final race to ward off closest rival Jean Stefano Marcelo and claim the Rotax Max Novice crown recently in the championship round of the 2005 Shell Superkarting Series at the Carmona Circuit Philippines. Jacinto started at the back of the pack but inched his way up to rule the 20-lap final race, clocking 18:37.085 in this event sponsored by Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., Honda Phils. Inc., Denso Iridium Power, Bridgestone by Phil. Allied Ent. Corp., DMCI Homes, Eastway Motorcycle Racing, Aeromed and Aviva Insurance. Jacinto and Marcelo were tied with 252 points apiece prior to the championship round. Jacinto wrapped up his campaign for Rotax Max Novice title with 442 points, 49 points ahead of Marcelo. John Marcelo, Stefano's father, led the first eighth laps but Jacinto rallied back on top and made a quick pass on the ninth lap. Marcelo spun out while looking back where his son was, as Jacinto pulled away to victory. Raymond Bustamante checked in second while Jean Stefano Marcelo ended third.

Subic security officers ready for SEAG

SECURITY officers and personnel of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) are undergoing additional training in antiterrorism and various aspects of emergency and security procedures to ensure the safety of athletes participants and delegates to the 23rd Southeast Asian Games. SBMA Administrator Armand Arreza assures the public that the agency has been taking the necessary steps to guarantee the safety of everyone throughout the Nov. 27 to Dec. 5 meet.

LGBA 7-stag derby Tuesday

THE CHAMPIONSHIP round of the 2nd Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association (LGBA) 7-stag derby will feature more than 130 fights on Tuesday at the Araneta Coliseum. Derby starts at 11 a.m. Elimination rounds were held last Oct. 10 and 13, and from a field of 114, only 11 entries posted three points apiece. Meanwhile, LGBA president Rene "Boy" Diaz said that eliminations for the NFGB Bakbakan National 9-Stag Derby will be staged at the Araneta Coliseum on Oct. 20 and 24 (exclusive for LGBA members only). Only stags with 'Bakbakan' wingbands can be fielded. Interested parties may contact 926-7808, 924-5072 and 0920-5851940. Event sponsors are Lakpue Drug Inc., Robichem, Excellence Gamefowl Specialists, Thunderbird Enertone and Vitarich Panabong.

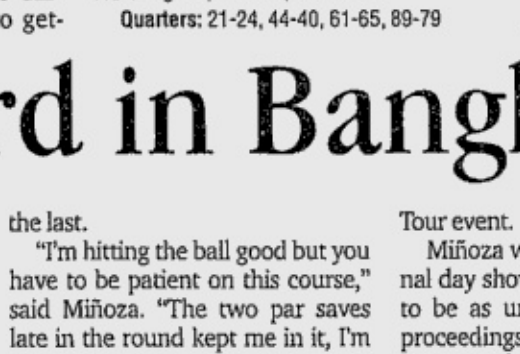
Coach E school adopts world-class backboards

BUILDING A GOOD BASKETBALL player starts with the right equipment and constant practice, according to Eric Altamirano, founder of the Coach E Basketball School.

Altamirano said students of basketball should always set aside 30 and 60 minutes every day for practice whether it be dribbling or shooting basketball to improve skills.

Altamirano said that having a portable and adjustable height backboard in the driveway or the backyard would give them the edge among their peers in terms of honing their skills.

Altamirano said that Spalding Huffy-Backboards has the widest choice of backboard models available in the country and it comes with a ratchet lift system that makes height adjustment—from 7.5 feet to 10 feet for the official size; 4.5 feet to 6.5 feet for the junior size; and 2.7 feet to 4.3 feet for the kiddie size—virtually effortless.



SPORTY SOCKS: Biofresh by Burlington, the PBA's official socks, was recently recognized by the National Shoppers Choice Annual Awards as the No. 1 Anti-microbial socks brand. Burlington Industries Phils. Inc. brand managers Niño Mas (left) and Mark Salecina receive the award at the Dusit Hotel Nikko.

Ateneo, La Salle renew fairway rivalry

ATENEO DE MANILA UNIVERSITY eyes a repeat and De La Salle University sets out for vindication when they renew their rivalry on the fairway in the second staging of the Ateneo-La Salle Championship Matches at the Camp John Hay Golf Club in Baguio on Oct. 21-23.

Organizing the tournament for the De La Salle Alumni Association and the Ateneo Golf Foundation is Club Leisure Management Corporation, the management company running select Golf Clubs and Hotels in the Philippines.

Camp John Hay chair Bob Sobrepeña announced yesterday that the tournament will serve as a new challenge to both schools because the event patterns its matches after the Ryder Cup.

Ateneo won the first staging last year at Sherwood Hills Golf Club of the tourney which has Smart Communications as presenter and PLDT, Camp John Hay Golf Club, CJH Dev't. Co., CJH Manor, Golforce, Gainers Marketing, Pisanti, Kork, Le Chef and Club Leisure as sponsors.

Only 18 of the best golfers from both each school will have the privilege to join the battle for golf supremacy and a year of bragging rights.

The DLSU campaign will be bannered by Freddie Mendoza as skipper while the Ateneo challenge will be led by skipper Teboy Javier and Jimmy General as manager.

Ateneo is expected to retain the core of last year's winning team which included Bong Brobio, Iggy Clavecilla, Louie Dacudao, Anthony Fernando, Jeric Hechanova, Mari Hechanova, Marty Ilagan, Bobby Iñigo, Pepot Iñigo, Manny Lacson, Mark Lopez, Noel Lopez, Jovi Neri, Joel Opaco, Mike Ozaeta, Jun Jun Plana, Lino Retuerto, Jingy Tuason, Yoyong Velez and Bobby Ysip.

La Salle's 2004 squad of Tommy Manotoc, JP Reyes, Justin Limjap, Hanson So Jr., Abe Rosal, Bobby Celestino, Larry Tojino, Oliver Gan, Raymond Sangil, Ave Avena, King Stehmeier, Miko Yee, Francis Gaston, Jenz Tecson, Miko Alejandro and Justin Tambunting should also look basically the same.

Ayala Greenfield golfest slated today

THE 2005 AYALA GREENFIELD Invitational kicks off today at the Ayala Greenfield Estates' newly completed, all-weather, 18-hole championship course designed by the renowned Robert Trent Jones Jr. in Calamba, Laguna.

The 18-hole tournament, presented by The Bellevue Manila, Smart, and Sony Ericsson, and in part by Petron Phils., PLDT, and San Miguel Corp. is one of the major events leading to the grand opening of the Ayala Greenfield Golf and Leisure Club.

Expected to play are prominent business leaders and executives, including Philippine Airlines president and COO Jaime Bautista, Ayala Land SVP-HR John Philip Orbeta, Del Monte Phils. VP-Sales Juan Gabriel Sison, Ayala Land VP Rene Almendras, and GMA Network Inc. VP Jose Antonio Veloso.

Tournament director Johnny Litton said that a Mitsubishi Lancer GLX and two World Business Class airline tickets from Northwest Airlines are among the hole-in-one prizes.

The awards ceremony will be held at the Bellevue Manila, Alabang.

AGE'S Jimmy Munoa, AGE GM Laurent Lamasuta, Jayelles' Roselle Rebano and Golf Director Juami Rocha head the preparations for the event

Euro Bucks captures Derbyfest opener

KLUB Don Juan de Manila members recently turned over to the Manila Jockey Club Inc. the trophy at stake in today's Don Juan Derby 2005 at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona. From left: Rudy Mendoza, Tony Eleazar, Robert Francisco, treasurer VG Martinez president Dante "Sonny" Arevalo and Mandy Trinidad with MJCI director Martin Cepeda, Bay Coching and corporate affairs VP Henri Kahn.

By Edwin Villanueva, Contributor

EURO BUCKS GALLOPED SUPERBLY UNDER HOT rider Jesse 'Jeh" Guce as the Hermie Esguerra entry claimed the first major event of the Philippine Derby Festival Friday night at the San Lazaro Leisure Park.

Pouring on the pressure from the outset, Euro Bucks dismantled Golden Link down the stretch to rule the Magic Millions Guineas.

Although the Australian imported filly unleashed her vaunted speed to set the pace, Euro Bucks' relentless hounding and superior staying power told heavily on her in the 1,600-meter contest.

"*Ang bilin sa 'kin ni* Sir Hermie *dikitan agad si* Golden Link. *Alam kong may itatagal si* Euro Bucks *at sinuwerte naman nakauna sa meta* (Sir Hermie instructed me to apply the pressure on Golden Link right from the start. I knew Euro Bucks has the ability to last the route. We got lucky and we made it)," said Guce, referring to the strategy that did wonders for the 3-year-old bay daughter of Account of Grace out of Leveret.

Euro Bucks, bred by former Marho chief Aristeo "Putch" Puyat, finished one length ahead of the leg-weary Golden Link to capture P300,000. Winning time was a respectable 1:40.5 (25-24-24-27.5).

Another Esguerra bet, War Alert, wound up third followed by Dream Cross, Queen Bearheart and Doteck.

The racefest shifts to high gear today as Esguerra tries to nail down the main event—the Grand Derby—through local sensation Real Spicy.

And Guce will try to see if Lady Luck is still on his side aboard Ocean Deep in the Derby and Don Exequiel in the Juvenile Colts.

The 29-year-old son of "El Maestro" Jesus hopes to close out with a bang what has been a victorious riding week where he has so far booted home 9 wins in 13 rides going into today's hostilities.

Real Spicy (Real Quiet-Spicy Tale) will have the dependable Antonio Alasid Jr. as partner when he clashes with the highly touted Aussie import Wild Orchid in the battle for the P1.186-million first prize over 2,000 meters.

On the other hand, Don Exequiel (Bench Mark-Belle Epoque), is colliding with pre-race heavy favorite Dixie the Younger of father-and-son Francis and Michael Trillana over 1,400 meters.

Dixie the Younger lost in a huge upset to Don Exequiel two months ago but has vastly improved since then.

Star jockey Fernando "Dhunoy" Raquel Jr. is handling Dixie the Younger (Khozaam-Dixie Cup) and Wild Orchid (High Yield-Dove Orchid).

Don Juan Derby up at San Lazaro Park

By Musong R. Castillo

A TWO-WAY FIGHT FOR THE RICHEST prize in local horseracing comes off the wraps today when the 2005 running of the Don Juan Derby is flagged off at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona.

Real Spicy and Wild Orchid are picked to dispute the P1.186 million winner's purse over the back-breaking 2,000-meter distance with the odds just about even and the result expected to be decided by whoever churns out a better ride.

Veteran Antonio Alcasid Jr. pilots Real Spicy, the only mare in the compact five-horse field sired by Real Quiet out of Spicy Tale. Alcasid will try to guide his mount to the biggest win of his career after romping off with the Triple Crown's Horseman's Cup last July.

Fernando Raquel will handle Wild Orchid, a noted stayer who will be coming into the race just two weeks after establishing a new record in the 1,500 with a time of 1:30.5 seconds over this same track.

Both Real Spicy and Wild Orchid turned in remarkable practice times on Tuesday leading to this event reserved for 3-year-olds.

Real Spicy is the versatile entry, having the ability to take the lead or come from the middle of the pack for a hard drive for home, which is the character of Wild Orchid.

Pine Needles, a bay filly, is the speedball in the group and the one who could give Real Spicy a hard time should Hermie Esguerra's entry decide to break out of the gates hard. She will be handled by Val Dilema.

Ocean Deep is the coupled Esguerra entry to be skippered by Jesse Guce, while Passing on Passion, an Australian import trained by Rudy Mendoza, completes the lean field.

The entire day is actually a festival of stakes races organized by the Klub Don Juan de Manila with four other races in the 13-race calendar offering purses of at least P270,000 to the winner.

Stockinger tops Rotax Max Senior Kart championship

AFTER ruling the philippine rotax max senior karting championship last weekend at the Carmona Racing Circuit, Marlon Stockinger was asked what the secret to his success was. His reply: "Tomato soup!" According to the 14-year-old Stockinger, his crew chief and racing coach Othmar Stutz cooks the best tomato soup that he has ever tasted. "I really love the stuff," said Stockinger, who drives for Swiss Finance and Investment Corp. (SFIC), Birel Team, Le Souffle, Kart Care, Bridgestone, Lima Hotel, Salon Privé and Malaysia Airlines. "Othmar and I have a deal wherein he has to make me his special soup every time I perform well," said Stockringer." And if I don't get up the podium, I won't get any!" Marlon is scheduled to compete in the Junior Rotax World Karting Finals set in Langkawi, Malaysia, on Nov. 26, according to his father Tom.

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Race 5-1. Coeur D'Honneur 2. I Will 3. Lady of Guadalupe
Race 6-1. Valid Hazm 2. Be My Pride 3. Order of Merit 4. She Jinsky 5. Mika's Pride
Race 7-1. Dixie the Younger 2. Don Exequiel
Race 8-1. Real Spicy/Ocean Deep 2. Wild Orchid
Race 9-1. Michael Da Dragon 2. Midnight Star 3.Absolute Charmer
Race 10-1. Bumpy Johnson 2. Manila Magic 3. Queen's Abbey 4. Smile of the Wind
Race 11-1. Being There 2. Stowaway Lass 3. Last Snip/Bulakeña
Race 12-1. Frosty Baily 2. Last Hazm 3. Ghurka
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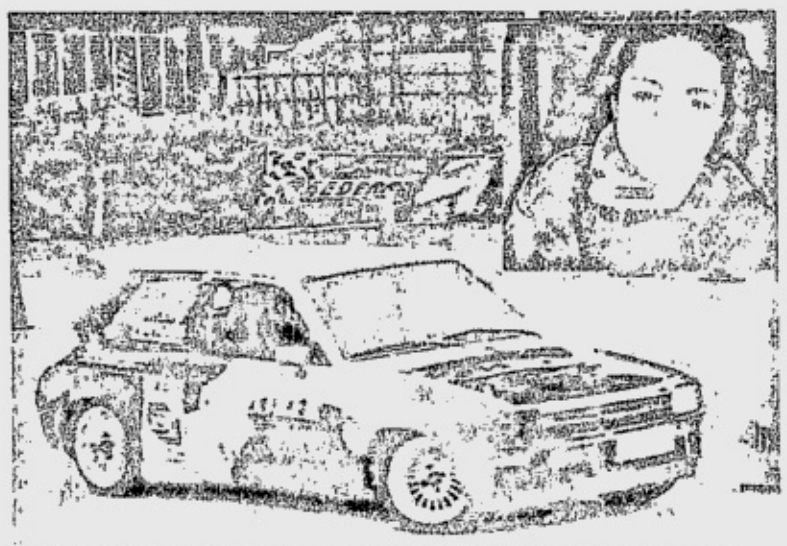

LADY car racer: Kathy Maningding (inset) of Explorer Motorworks Racing Team negotiates a sharp bend en route to snaring top honors in the ladies, novice stock, experience clubman and group 2b categories in the 10th leg of Race Motorsport Club Slalom Grand Prix at the Festival Mall Alabang parking lot recently.

National triathlon at Ayala Alabang

THE 7TH AND FINAL LEG OF THE 2005 SPEEDO-National Age Group Triathlon (NAGT) series takes place at the Ayala-Alabang Village on Oct. 23.

Cebuano Gerrie Calinawan and Kim Mangrobang from Sta. Rosa, Laguna, have already assured themselves of this year's titles by virtue of their earlier leg victories. Calinawan won the first four legs in Danao City, Davao City, Caliraya, and Pangasinan and the last leg in Cagayan de Oro for an unreachable total of 500 points. Trailing him is Joash Serrano with 265 points.

Mangrobang posted victories in Caliraya, Pangasinan, Clark, and Cagayan de Oro to earn 400 points. Angela Alonalon follows with 230 points."We are seeing the emergence of younger triahtletes like Calinawan, Serrano, Rowan Fernandez, and Angela Alonalon," said Triathlon Association of the Philippines president Tom Carrasco.

PMI meets World Citi for crown

DEFENDING champion Philippine Maritime Institute and last year's runner-up World Citi College will dispute the title in the 10th CUSA men's basketball tournament at the CCP gym in Sta. Mesa, Manila. PMI slammed the door on Manuel Luis Quezon University, 81-69, while World Citi eliminated Metro Manila College, 73-65, in their crossover semifinal matches. The Admirals and the Vikings will dispute the title in a best-of-three showdown beginning Monday. PMI's "Twin Towers" combination of 6-foot-5 Nilo Catimbang and 6-4 Larry Rodriguez outdueled their MLQU counterparts 6-7 Israel Balanay and 6-5 Jojie Rosario to power the Dado Santiago-mentored Admirals to victory. Catimbang led all scorers with 22 points, followed by Rodriguez with 20. Torton Lustestica had 21 markers for MLQU, which earned the right to meet PMI with a 67-55 triumph over Philippine College of Criminology. World Citi relied on the backcourt duo of 5-9 Mark Abayan and 5-11 Leo Labtag to frustrate MMC.

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2 LORD OF WAR 11:55 / 2:45 / 5:35 / 8:25
3 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2 12:05 / 2:55 / 5:45 / 8:35
4 INTO THE BLUE 12:35 / 3:05 / 5:35 / 8:05
5 DEUCE BIGALOW 2 12:10 RH / 1:25 / 3:40 / 5:55 / 8:10

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THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN R13 12:00,2:25,4:50,7:15,9:40
DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS PG13 12:40,3:00,5:20, 7:40,10:00
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3 LORD OF WAR 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00 R-13
4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00 R-13

CHICAGO White Sox pitcher Jon Garland throws in the ninth inning of Game 3 of the American League Championship Series. AP

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White Sox quiet doubts

Clip wings of Angels for 2-1 AL title series edge

ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA—NO doubt about this one.

Paul Konerko made sure of that.

Konerko hit a two-run homer deep into the left-field seats in a three-run first inning, Jon Garland pitched a four-hitter, and the Chicago White Sox silenced the Los Angeles Angels 5-2 Friday night to take a 2-1 lead in the AL championship series.

There weren't any discussions of dubious decisions by the umpires, unlike Wednesday night in Chicago when umpire Doug Eddings set off days of debate with a controversial call in the ninth that led to the White Sox's winning run.

Not that umpires had a quiet night.

The sellout crowd of 44,725 at Angel Stadium repeatedly booed the umpires and Chicago's AJ Pierzynski, who ran to first with two outs in the ninth Wednesday after he swung and missed strike three, a pitch Eddings ruled hit the dirt.

Replays seemed to show Angels backup catcher Josh Paul grabbed the pitch in the air, and the Angels were furious, especially after Joe Crede hit an RBI double late in the inning for a 2-1 Chicago win.

Before Friday's game, Angels manager Mike Scioscia insisted there wouldn't be any carry-over.

"Our guys have moved on. I feel the same way," Scioscia said.

But the White Sox found new punch against John Lackey, scoring as many runs in the first three innings as they did in the first two games.

Ervin Santana, the 22-year-old rookie who won the first-round clincher against the New York Yankees, will try to tie the series for the Angels on Saturday when he pitches against Freddy Garcia.

Eddings, who worked the right-field foul line, was the focus of fans as the game began in twilight with an unusually warm 89-degree temperature. Behind the plate, one spectator held a bright yellow sign referring to the number on the sleeve of Eddings' shirt: "Eddings 88. 87 other guys were busy so we got you!"

Fans booed loudly when Pierzynski was introduced, when the umpires walked out to home plate, when the umps ran to their positions in the field and again when the umps were introduced. *AP*

Ace helps Baird open lead

LAS VEGAS—Briny Baird had a hole-in-one Friday on his way to a 5-under 66 and a two-shot lead midway through the Michelin Championship. Baird, one stroke in front beginning his day at The Canyons, was 15 under through two rounds. Tour rookie Ryan Moore, the 2004 US college and US Amateur champion and 2005 college player of the year while attending the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, birdied six of his first nine holes at The Canyons and finished with an 8-under 63 that pulled him into a five-way tie for second. US Masters and PGA champion Phil Mickelson failed to make the cut, which came at 6 under. He followed his opening 67 with a 71 to finish at 5-under 138. Mickelson said coming into the Las Vegas event that he planned to use the tournament to work on some things in his game, and that it was hard to get motivated for regular tournaments after playing the majors. *AP*

5 in Samsung tilt

PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA —MICHELLE WIE MOVED into contention with a career-best 7-under 65 at the Samsung World Championship Friday, pulling within two shots of second-round leader Grace Park, who overcame a four-putt double bogey to shoot 66 for her best round of the year.

Wie's day included a fortuitous ruling that gave her relief from a desert bush where a few dozen bees were hovering.

Park, who was at 11-under 133, will be paired with Wie in the final group Saturday.

Annika Sorenstam bogeyed her final two holes for an even-par 71 and joined the group at 135 that included Wie and 19-year-old Paula Creamer.

Wie's tee shot on the par-4 14th lodged at the base of a Gold Lantana plant, and it appeared Wie would have to take a one-shot penalty for an unplayable lie. Instead, she recalled a tournament she watched on television when a player got relief because of fire ants, and summoned rules official Jim Haley.

"They're just honey bees," Haley said when he stooped to inspect the situation.

"I got bit by a honey bee once," Wie replied, then under her breath muttered, "My foot got all swollen."

Haley gave her a free drop under the "Decisions of Golf," which allows for relief when "it is unreasonable to expect the player to play from such a dangerous situation" such as a rattlesnake or bees' nest.

Wie blasted out of the lie where green grass met desert sand, onto the green and escaped with a par. *AP*

RACE supporter: Mizuno marketing officer Ania Carlos seals the sponsorship deal with Subic National Marathon organizer Supt. Sam Tucay, OIC of the PNP Values and Leadership School, at the recent launching of the race in Camp Crame. The marathon is set Oct. 23 inside the Subic Bay Freeport and hopes to promote the advocacy campaign of the PNP for a God-centered and service-oriented organization.

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Ozamiz cagers tame Tribu

OZAMIZ CITY—PLAYMAKER BOB Cozy Ilanga bounced back from a scoreless performance in game 1 to lead the Ozamiz Cotta to a 70-64 victory over defending champion Tribu Sugbu in game 2 of the 2005 Panasonic-NBC's Southern Conference finals Friday at the Gov. Angel Medina Sr. gym here.

Ilanga's second triple late in the third period helped Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's Ozamiz cagers surge ahead, 53-48, going into the playoff period. The Skygo/Sirlitz-backed Tribesmen never recovered after that.

The Tribesmen of businessmen Lito Gillamac and Mario King climbed from a 5-17 hole early in the game to wrest the lead at 30-26 on Michael Luga's 10-point outburst.

But Ozamiz outhustled the Cebuanos the rest of the way to pull through and extend the series to the limit.

Game 3 was being played at press-time. The winner will meet Northern Conference champion Cavite in the national finals of the tourney supported by Panasonic, Sulpicio Lines, Spring Cooking Oil, Sunbolt Sports Drink, Accel, Molten, Nature's Spring, Far Eastern Insurance, Skygo, Sirlitz, Hapee Toothpaste, Dewfoam, KSK Food Products (Boy Bawang), Prime Channel, Bayview Park Hotel and Holiday Plaza-Cebu.

Ozamiz limited Tribu to 10 points in the third quarter. With Ilanga orchestrating plays, Ozamiz took care of the ball well, turning it over only seven times. The 5-foot-9 Ilanga finished with 14 points, including two triples, five assists, four rebounds and one block.

Ozamiz slotman Christian Nicdao also had 14 markers, six rebounds, one assist and one steal.

The scores:

OZAMIZ 70—Ilanga 14, Nicdao 14, Bansil 12, Alberto 9, Sampilo 9, Llangco 6, Cabigkis 2, Libatog 2, Delina 2, Butel 0, Basco 0, Alvarado 0, Aquino 0, Conmigo 0.

TRIBU 64—Ferraren 12, Mangubat 10, Luga 10, Bucao 8, Cabanes 6, Ursal 6, Calnglet 5, Mercado 3, Almacin 2, Paglinawan 2, Pening 0, Guerrero 0, Ignacio 0.

Quarters: 22-15, 38-38, 53-48, 70-64

CKP five clinches diadem

THE CKP CONSULtancy Services basketball team, powered by New Era University players, nipped Ateneo's Alumni Champion Team Abesamis, 78-76, to grab the Open division title of the Gillette MBL Vector Cup at the Acropolis gym recently. CKP coach Adonis Tierra, who is also the NEU head coach and assistant coach of Sta. Lucia Realty in the PBA, relied on the clutch plays of mainstays Jeff de Guzman and Paolo Malonzo, who finished with 23 and 15 points, respectively, to repulse the Ateneo Alumni. Another New Era cager, DJ Perlas joined De Guzman and Malonzo in the Mythical Five. Malonzo was also adjudged the Most Valuable Player. CKP of playing team owner/maner William Fong, was sponsored by Hawaii Java coffee and Goldland Property Group and was outfitted by Hanford Phil.

P

St. Francis Perpetual cop titles

ST. FRANCIS of Assisi-Bacoor stormed to its fifth straight high school girls' title while Perpetual Help-Molino captured three crowns in the 6th Southern Luzon Colleges and Universities Athletic Association at the Brent International School in Sta. Rosa recently. Of all the six championship titles garnered at the Brent Gym, most momentous was the one captured by the St. Francis high school volleybelles, who whipped Perpetual-Molino, 25-21, 25-12, 25-18,- to stamp their class in the division. "This is a product of an effective sports program that has continuously discovered and honed the talents of our student athletes for years," said St. Francis athletic director Benjo Viola, who is also president of the SLCUAA.

Spring Oil, Mediatrix join PICAA

NATIONAL Basketball Conference (NBC) campaigner Spring Cooking Oil and Espiritu Cup fourth placer Mediatrix Telecoms have signed up to participate in the 2005 PICAA Open basketball championship which reels off on Sunday, Oct. 23 at the Philippine Buddhacare Academy gym in Ma. Clara St. (near Araneta Ave.) in Quezon City. Spring will be handled by coach Efren "Yong" Garcia and managed by national shooter Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla, while Mediatrix will be managed by Mike Dullas.

For inquiries, call Ong at 366-0357 (morning only) or text Liza at cell 0918-4406777.

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LORD OF WAR 6:00FS/06:30MF/08:30LFS/09:00LMF/11:00END
MEGAMALL
LORD OF WAR 10:15FS/10:20MF/12:40/3:00/5:20/7:40 09:40LFS/10:00LMF/12:00END
CEBU (032) 231-3876
1 INTO THE BLUE 10:50FS/11:00MF/01:06/03:12/05:18/07:24 09:19LFS/09:30LMS/11:25END
2 LORD OF WAR 10:30FS/10:40MF/12:50/03:00/05:10/7:20 09:20LFS/09:30LMF/11:30END
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2 10:20FS/10:30MF/12:20/02:10/04:00/05:50/7:40 09:05LFS/09:30LMF/10:55END
MANILA
40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN 10:30FS/10:50MF/01:00/03:10/05:20/7:30 09:25LFS/09:40LMF/11:35END
METRO MANILA
SM MEGAMALL: 1 LORD OF WAR; 2 WALLACE AND GROMIT; 3 DEUCE BIGALOW; 4 TRANSPORTER 2; 5 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE; 6 INTO THE BLUE; 7 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN; 8 HISTORY OF VIOLENCE; 9 DUBAI; 10 TRUMPETS: LITTLE MERMAID; 11 DUNGEONS AND DRAGON; 12 LAND OF THE DEAD
SM CITY FAIRVIEW: 1 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS; 2 TRANSPORTER 2; 3 LAND OF DEAD; 4 INTO THE BLUE; 5 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN; 6 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 7 LORD OF WAR; 8 WALLACE AND GROMIT; 9 DUBAI; 10 BROTHERS GRIMM; 11 BLADE OF ROSE; 12 HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
SM NORTH EDSA: 1 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 2 WALLACE AND GROMIT; 3 DUBAI; 4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGON; 5 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE; 6 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN; 7 INTO THE BLUE; 8 LORD OF WAR
SM CITY STA MESA: 1 LORF OF WAR; 2 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS; 3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN; 5 DUBAI; 6 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE; 7 INTO THE BLUE; 8 WALLACE & GROMIT; 9 TRANSPORTER 2; 10 LAND OF THE DEAD
SM CITY SOUTHMALL: 1 LORD OF WAR; 2 DUBAI; 3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS; 5 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN; 6 TRANSPORTER 2; 7 INTO THE BLUE; 8 WALLACE AND GROMIT; 9 HISTORY OF VIOLENCE; 10 LAND OF THE DEAD
SM CITY MANILA: 1 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS; 3 INTO THE BLUE; 4 LORD OF WAR; 5 WALLACE AND GROMIT; 6 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN; 7 CINEMANILA; 8 CINEMANILA; 9 DUBAI; 10 LAND OF THE DEAD; 11 DUBAI; 12 CINEMANILA
SM SUPERCENTER SUCAT: 1 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS; 2 LORD OF WAR; 3 DUBAI; 4 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
SM CITY BICUTAN: 1 LORD OF WAR; 2 DUBAI; 3 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS; 4 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
SM SAN LAZARO: 1 LORD OF WAR; 2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 3 WALLACE AND GROMIT; 4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS; 5 CINEMANILA; 6 DUBAI
LUZON
SM CITY PAMPANGA: 1 LORD OF WAR; 2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 3 CONSTANT GARDENER; 4 INTO THE BLUE; 5 ONE MISSED CALL 2; 6 DUBAI
SM CITY BAGUIO: 1 LORD OF WAR; 2 BROTHERS GRIMM; 3 DUBAI; 4 DUECE BIGALOW 2
SM CITY BACOOR: 1 TRANSPORTER 2; 2 WALLACE AND GROMIT; 3 LORD OF WAR; 4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN; 5 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 6 DUBAI; 7 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE; 8 INTO THE BLUE
SM CITY MARILAO: 1 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 2 LORD OF WAR; 3 DUBAI; 4 BROTHERS GRIMM
SM CITY DASMARINAS: 1 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 2 LORD OF WAR; 3 DUBAI; 4 WALLACE & GROMIT
SM CITY LUCENA: 1 DUBAI; 2 PERFECT CATCH; 3 THE CAVE; 4 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
SM CITY BATANGAS: 1 PERFECT CATCH; 2 DUBAI; 3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 4 LAND OF THE DEAD
VISAYAS AND MINDANAO
SM CITY CEBU: 1 INTO THE BLUE; 2 LORD OF WAR; 3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN; 5 DARK WATER; 6 LAND OF THE DEAD; 7 DUBAI; 8 BROTHERS GRIMM
SM CITY ILOILO: 1 PERFECT MAN; 2 RESERVED; 3 DUBAI; 4 LAND OF THE DEAD; 5 DUECE BIGALOW 2; 6 TRANSPORTER 2; 7 RESERVED; 8 CONSTANT GARDENER
SM CITY DAVAO: 1 TRANSPORTER 2; 2 THE CROW 4: WICKED PRAYER; 3 DUBAI; 4 LAND OF THE DEAD; 5 DEUCE BIGALOW 2; 6 LORD OF WAR
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1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

3 LORD OF WAR
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

4 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

5 WALLACE AND GROMIT
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

6 CORPSE BRIDE
12:00 1:50 3:50 5:50 7:50 9:50

7 LAND OF THE DEAD
1:20 3:40 5:50 8:00 10:00

8 INTO THE BLUE
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

9 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

10 A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 LORD OF WAR
10:10 12:25 2:45 5:05 7:25 10:00

2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
10:20 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:30 9:50

3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
10:20 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:30 9:50

4 C U T 11:00 1:00
TRABAHO 3:10 5:10
DILIM 7:40 9:50

5 ANG DAAN PATUNGONG KALIMUGTONG 11:00 1:00
ALA VERDE ALA POBRE 3:00 5:30
MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE AND JOHN 8:00 9:50

6 TULI 11:00 1:10 3:20
ILUSYON 5:45 7:55 10:00

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1 WALLACE AND GROMIT
11:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:10

2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
11:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:10

3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

4 INTO THE BLUE
12:20 2:30 4:40 6:50 9:00

5 LORD OF WAR
1:05 3:45 5:25 9:15

6 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
1:40 4:00 6:20 9:00

7 TRANSPORTER 2
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

8 WILD SIDE
1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

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1 INTO THE BLUE
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 TRANSPORTER 2

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1 INTO THE BLUE
2 THE DESCENT
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

1 LORD OF WAR
2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
3 WALLACE AND GROMIT
4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2

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ALA VERDE ALA POBRE
(Ana Capri, Ebong Joson) ***Directed by:*** Bricio Santos

ANG DAAN PATUNGONG KALIMUGTONG
(Analyn Bangsi-il, Nemee Tocdangan, Rhenuel Ordono)
Directed by: Ramon De Guzman

C U T
(Joel Torre) ***Directed by:*** Jon Red

DILIM
(Rica Peralejo, Mario Magallona, Emilio Garcia)
Directed by: Topel Lee

ILUSYON
(Yul Servo, JC Parker)
Directed by: Paulo Villaluz / Ellen Ramos

MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE AND JOHN
(Richard Quan, Neil Ryan Sese, Maria Isabel Lopez)
Directed by: Gil Portes

TRABAHO
(Ping Medina, Sigrid Bernardo) ***Directed by:*** Ned Trespeces

TULI
(Desiree Del Valle, Carlo Aquino) ***Directed by:*** Auraeus Solito

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3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 THE CROW 4

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3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

1 THE DESCENT
2 INTO THE BLUE
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5 THE CROW 4
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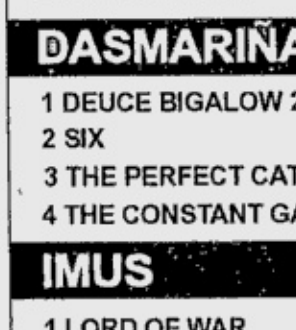
6 THE PERFECT MAN

1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 THE PERFECT MAN
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
4 DEUCE BIGALOW



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1 LORD OF WAR | 2 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 3 DUBAI | 4 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN

G4 GLORIETTA 4
1 WALLACE & GROMIT | 2 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2 | 3 THX LORD OF WAR 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS
4 INTO THE BLUE | 5 DUBAI | 6 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 7 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN

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1 SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL For more details, call 752-7865 | 2 SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL For more details, call 752-7865

GB3 GREENBELT 3
1 THX LORD OF WAR 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS | 2 THX DEUCE BIGALOW:EUROPEAN GIGOLO 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS
3 INTO THE BLUE 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS | 4 CORPSE BRIDE 1:20, 3:10, 5:00, 6:50, 8:40, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS | 5 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:55, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS

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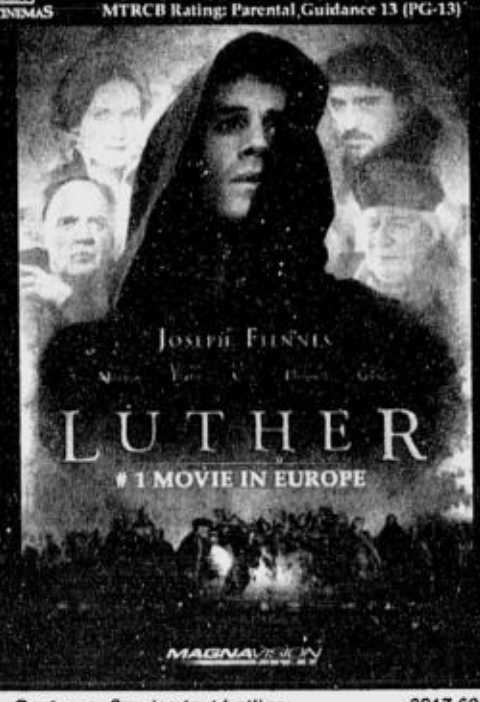

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Youngsters, US-honed bets banner RP squad

By Marc Anthony Reyes

A MIXTURE OF YOUTH AND FOREIGN flavor will characterize the Philippine swimming team for the Southeast Asian Games next month.

Though the lineup is not ready until next week, the swimming association has already collected the results of its last SEAG tryouts as well as the times submitted by at least eight United States-based Filipino tankers.

Already, swimming chief Mark Joseph compared this year's bunch to the 1991 Manila SEAG cast which included seasoned international swimmers like former Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain and swimming association secretary general Akiko Thomson.

"In 1991, the majority of the team members were training abroad with Asian Games and even Olympics credentials," said Joseph, of the 1991 bunch which amassed 10 gold medals, including six from Buhain.

In the next month's SEAG, the Philippines is hoping to duplicate if not improve the two gold medals it won in Vietnam in 2003. Swimming stakes 32 gold medals, diving 10 and water polo one.

The likes of long-distance artist Ryan Arabejo is expected to make the team especially after winning four gold medals in the just concluded Bank of Commerce national SEAG trials.

Yesterday, the 17-year-old added the 200-meter freestyle gold to his victories in the 1,500m free, 400m free and 400m individual medley.

Swimming out of retirement, Lizza Danila fished her fifth gold medal to intensify her bid for a fifth SEAG inclusion. The oldest RP tanker at 23, Danila triumphed 50m free, on top of her victories in her favorite backstroke events (100m and 200m), and the 100m and 200m free.

Bonus Bordado bested Olympian Timmy Chua during Thursday's 200m breaststroke.

Danila has won three straight silver medals in the SEA Games, while 13-year-old Denjylie Cordero copped the 200m breasts gold medal.

Joseph didn't reveal the names of the US-based tankers until they have collated all the results by next week.

GRAND Prix champ: Noboru Ueda, Japanese 125cc 13 times grand prix champion was guest of honor during the Honda International one—make race held Oct. 8 at the Batangas Racing Circuit. Speedgear Sports Inc., organizer of the race, will be conducting Honda races nationwide.

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Promo period is from October 1 to October 31 of 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No 5907, Series of 2005.

1st Amb. Espiritu Cup set Nov. 14

THE UPSILON SIGMA Phi, the oldest fraternity in the University of the Philippines, will stage the first Ambassador Edgardo B. Espiritu on Nov. 14 with officials of the country's top private and government corporations expected to see action with members of the Upsilonians na Pumapalo at the Manila Golf Club inside Forbes Park.

ESPIRITU

The fund-raising tournament honoring the former finance secretary and current Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United Kingdom, Ireland and Iceland, aims to generate funds for the scholarships of poor but deserving Filipinos.

A distinguished public servant, Espiritu is a member of the Batch '55 of the Upsilon Sigma Phi, which is organizing the event through its Upsilon Foundation, Inc. In 1983, he became president of Metrobank and took over the chairmanship of the National Power Corp.

Filipino golfers remain at 16th place in Texas

THE PHILIPPINES TURNED IN A mediocre 3-under-par 141 on Friday and languished near the bottom of the 2005 Spirit International Amateur golf standings heading into the final round at the Whispering Pines layout in Houston, Texas.

Marvin Dumandan and Gene Bondoc salvaged a 4-under 68, but Team Philippines hardly moved up as the tandem of Lora Roberto and Anya Tanpinco continued to struggle in the face of superior opposition in the ladies side.

Roberto and Tanpinco carded a 73, giving the Philippines a 54-hole aggregate of 421 in overall team play, good for 16th spot, 19 strokes behind, in the event which has turned out to be a two-nation duel between England and South Africa.

England fired a 134 for a one-stroke lead over charging South Africa, which shot the day's best combined low rounds for 133 and 403. Defending champion United States likewise churned out a 134 but fell 3 strokes off the pace.

After a solid outing Thursday with an eagle-spiked round, Dumandan had three birdies but fumbled with six pickups, while Bondoc came up with a three-birdie, one-bogey round marred by seven pickups.

Tanpinco, hoping to join Jayvie Agojo and Frances Bondad in the RP team competing in next month's SEAG, had only one birdie against two bogeys and nine pickups while Roberto made two birdies, three bogeys and had six pickups.

The Philippines could only hope to finish 15th at best since it is only two strokes behind Taiwan but 10 shots behind the 12th running Netherlands, Chile and Wales.

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Editor Emmie G. Velarde

SARAH Geronimo: Kids look up to her

Christmas becomes Sarah

The singing champ is now in the business of fulfilling dreams

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

CHRISTMAS STARTED EARLY FOR singing champion Sarah Geronimo.

A long-cherished wish was fulfilled recently when her first solo concert, "The Other Side," at the Araneta Coliseum turned out to be an SRO event—despite malfunctioning air-conditioners.

Another dream-come-true is her hosting gig on ABS-CBN's "Little Big Star," where she acts as big sister to the young contestants. After all, she was just like them before she hit it big on "Star for a Night."

TAKE FIVE

Sarah pushes the wish-fulfillment streak via "Gift Love on Christmas: Isang Milyong Pamaskong Handog ng Surf," the jingle of which, "Ang Bango ng Pasko," she has recorded for the corporate sponsor, Unilever.

The project is a unique raffle that allows consumers to win P1 million and the chance to contribute to SOS Children's Village.

Says Howard D. Belton, Unilever chair and chief executive officer of Unilever: "Christmas is for the young. But what about the poor kids who don't get any Christmas gifts?"

Surf chose Sarah to be the voice of its Christmas campaign because she is a positive role model, says Benjie Yap, marketing manager. "Kids look up to her."

Agrees Darlene Chiong, senior brand manager, "Aside from her youthful exuberance, her life story is inspiring."

What convinced you to sign on?

I've always dreamed of recording my

CHRISTMAS/ A2-2

INSIDE

Little Hollywood right in Cebu /A2-4

Dig that dude Michael Bublé! /A2-4

Pinatubo: An ancient god's wrath /A2-4

Screamin' good start for 'Sigaw' in LA /A2-4

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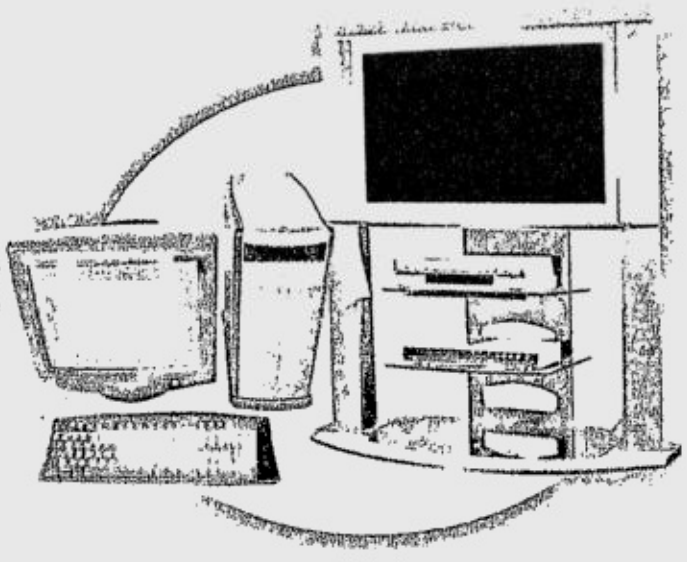

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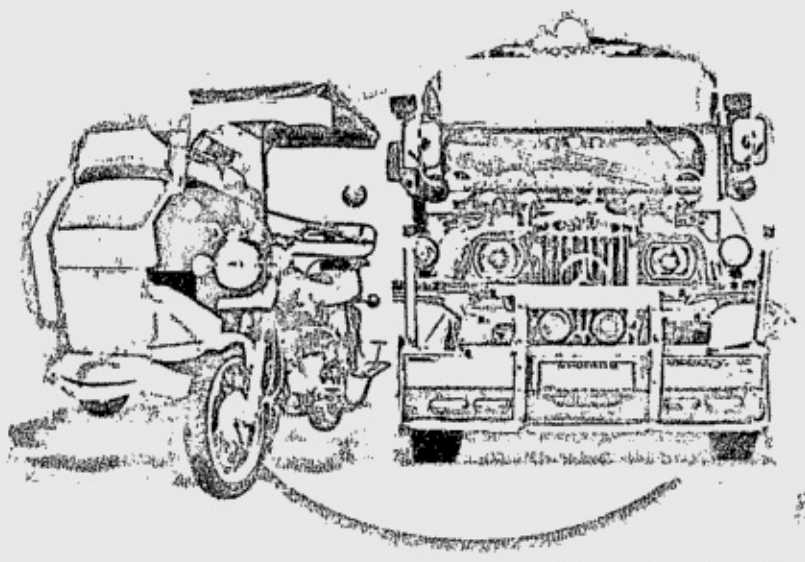

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GP

3 LORD OF WAR
12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00
R-13

4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
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BEARERS of the four jewels of "Encantadia": Pirena (Sunshine), Amihan (Iza), Danaya (Diana) and (Alena) Karyle

WENDELL Ramos, Gab
Antonio Aquitana

Kapuso turns

DAVAO CITY—DAVAOEÑOS braved the sweltering heat to spend the day with their favorite celebrities during GMA 7's Grand Kapuso Fans' Day last weekend at the SM City grounds here.

Artists led by "SOP" hosts Regine Velasquez, Ogie Alcasid, Janno Gibbs and Jaya performed in the enclosed three-hectare site.

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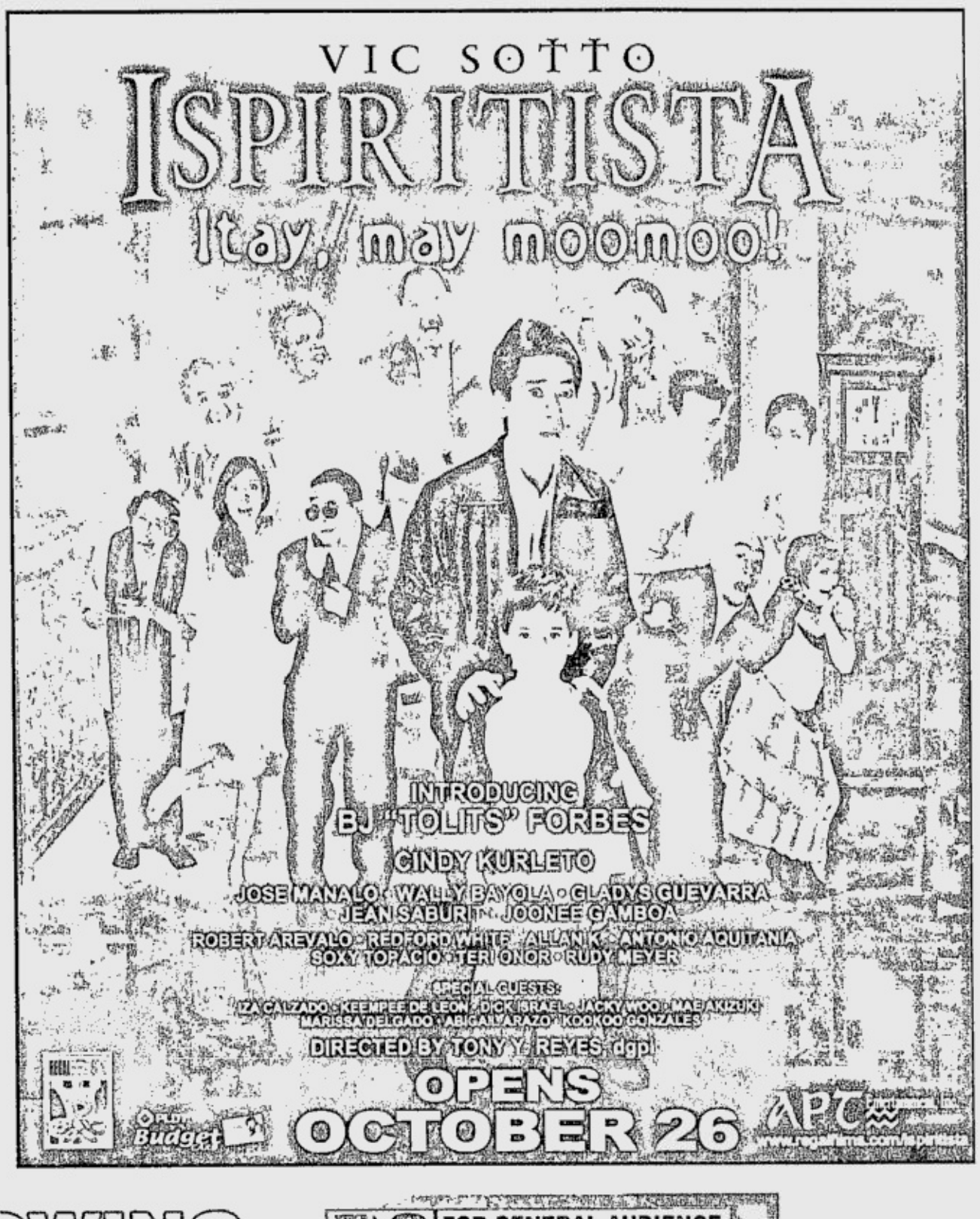

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by Eigenmann and

SEXY belles Regine Tolentino, Rufa Mae Quinto and Alicia Meyer with the Abstract Dancers

PHOTOS BY WILLA SIA

PAOLO Bediones and Ethel Booba, hosts of the top-rating "Extra Challenge," lead participants in a series of games.

MIKE Enriquez and Mel Tiangco of "24 Oras" hand out raffle prizes, just like this TV set.

it up for Davao

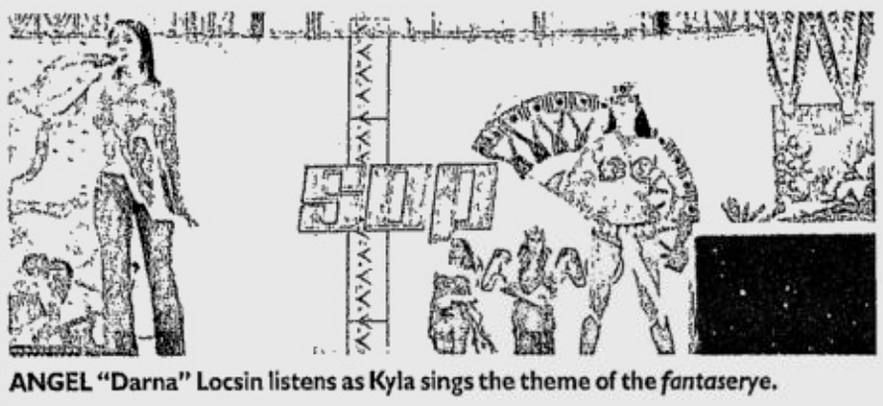
ooths representing GMA 7 programs e put up during the three-day event. se for "Emergency," "At Your Service" "Pinoy Abroad" attracted the most ple.

lso part of the blitz was a meet-and- t with News and Public Affairs per- alities like Paolo Bediones and Ethel ba of "Extra Challenge" and Mel ngco and Mike Enriquez of "24 Oras."

Philippine Army personnel manned the exits, looking out for possible trouble-makers. Assistance was also provided by the local police and the Urban Search and Rescue group.

Executives led by GMA 7 president Felipe Gozon hosted dinner for the local press at the Marco Polo Hotel on Oct. 7.

Marinel R. Cruz



ANGEL "Darna" Locsin listens as Kyla sings the theme of the *fantaserye*.

"SOP" hosts Jaya and Regine Velasquez, with South Border.

Christmas becomes Sarah...

From page A2-1

own original Christmas song. I used to sing Christmas songs with my father [Delfin]... and go caroling with other neighborhood kids. Now, through this song, I also get to help orphans. It's a great feeling. I didn't even have to do much. I just sang.

Christmas must be your favorite time of the year.

Yes! It's the season for sharing and loving.

Have you met the kids at SOS?

We rehearsed the song a while back [for the project's launch]. Some of them had stage fright; I told them to just smile! I'd like to have more bonding sessions with them.

Do you identify with the young contestants on "Little Big Star?"

I see myself in the little things they do before the competition—like covering their necks with hankies and avoiding cold drinks.

Do you give them tips?

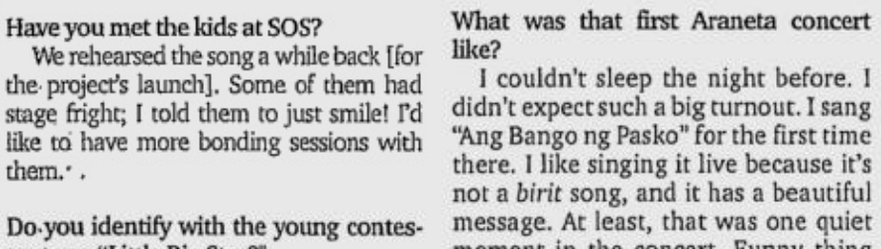
I remind them not to talk too much before a show and not to give their all during rehearsals. *Pag birit agad* (if they hit the high notes right away), their voice could get hoarse.

How did you feel when you were being pitted against Regine Velasquez [who hosted "Star for a Night" and now hosts "Pinoy Pop Superstar"]?

Some people said Miss Reg was mad at me. [When] she guested in my Araneta concert, I asked her about it. She said I shouldn't listen to intrigues, and that I shouldn't worry because she herself was "deaf" to those.

What was that first Araneta concert like?

I couldn't sleep the night before. I didn't expect such a big turnout. I sang "Ang Bango ng Pasko" for the first time there. I like singing it live because it's not a *birit* song, and it has a beautiful message. At least, that was one quiet moment in the concert. Funny thing was, the air-conditioning had conked out. But after the Christmas song, it suddenly came back on. "Ang Bango ng Pasko" will be part of my live concert CD and will also be the carrier song of an all-star Christmas compilation Unilever is doing with Viva Records. I'll also sing it in Surf's "Paskoncert sa Pasiklab" in Philcoa on Dec. 17.



THE champ during the Big Dome concert, when the air-conditioning conked out

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Michael Bublé is psyched to please

By Pocholo Concepcion, *Contributor*
Photos by Jude Thaddeus Bautista

MICHAEL Bublé at the Araneta Coliseum was the hottest concert ticket on Wednesday night, and the Canadian singer made sure the crowd took home memories to last till his next return engagement.

It was his third visit to Manila, but still the fans couldn't get enough.

At 30, Bublé sends women of all ages swooning, the way the older ones did to the music of Frank Sinatra or Elvis Presley and, in the case of the screaming teeners, to Maroon 5.

References to Sinatra and Presley are not accidental. Four songs into the gig, Bublé described himself as just "an interpreter of songs" who counted Ol' Blue Eyes and The Pelvis among his idols.

Accompanied by an eight-piece horn section and a four-member backup of drums, upright

It was his third Manila visit ... still the fans couldn't get enough

bass, hollow-body electric guitar and a baby grand piano, he sought to recreate what made Sinatra tick during the swinging jazz phase, and what the world relished when Presley struck the first rock star pose.

Clincher

That was the clincher. Two opposite generations were bridged together by one astute performer grooving on a jazzed-up repertoire of some of the best-loved pop standards.

Psyched to please, Bublé cracked jokes, made fun of himself and then suddenly jumped offstage, raced down the aisle and climbed up the upper box and bleacher sections to connect with those who saw him "only as a speck" from afar.

"Now we've met; I feel much better," a sweating Bublé quipped before leading the band into a snappy version of "Come Fly with Me," followed by a respectable take on Van Morrison's "Moondance."

Calling Ray Charles an innovator whose versatility shocked him, Bublé earned a few laughs by mimicking the late icon's voice before doing a reworked "You Don't Know Me."

His voice is mesmerizing in the way it glides with total ease, accentuated by sharp movements of the hands and body as he twirls and jerks in precision to varying beats.

Even the men, unrepentant rockers included, nodded in unison as the singer concluded the show with James Taylor's "How Sweet It Is," Queen's "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" and Leon Russell's "Song For You."

Of course, the audience wanted more. And of course, Bublé obliged.

Wrath of the ancient god

By Constantino C. Tejero

REVIEW

WHEN Aeta tribeswoman Flor de la Cruz espied a white plume rising from the abode of their ancient god, she sensed something was afoot.

Accompanied by Sister Emma, a nun working with the Aeta community in Botolan, Zambales, De la Cruz went to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology in Manila and sought out Phivolcs head Raymundo Punongbayan. She reported what she saw—smoke coming from the peak of Pinatubo, an undistinguished mountain on that part of Luzon.

To the Aetas inhabiting the area, it was the home of Apo Namalyari, god of all things. They took the smoke as a sign that their god was angry. Punongbayan thought otherwise. He consulted with Chris Newhall of the United States Geological Survey. From April to June of that year, the two scientists monitored the rumblings and stirrings of a volcano that had been dormant for over 500 years.

'Eruption at Pinatubo' is a thrilling 45-minute documentary on National Geographic Channel's 'Savage Earth' series

A thrilling record of that look-out and the subsequent devastation is presented by the National Geographic Channel in the 45-minute film documentary "Eruption at Pinatubo," part of its "Savage Earth" program. Premiered on Oct. 10, "Pinatubo" was aired again last night. Two more repeat airings are set tomorrow at 11 a.m. and Oct. 22 at 9 a.m.

Gripping

The series depicts "gripping stories of human loss and scientific triumph in the face of some of the most devastating natural disasters on earth."

Apart from the 1991 Pinatubo eruption, the series includes last year's Southeast Asia tsunami and Florida hurricanes; the 1989 San Francisco earthquake; the South Dakota tornado; Hurricane Floyd in North Carolina in 1999; and the super twisters (148 tornados in one day) that ripped North America in 1974

The eruption of Mt. Pinatubo is one of the most cataclysmic natural events in recorded history. Says the NGC: "Ten times as powerful as Mount St. Helens and twice as catastrophic as the eruption that buried the ancient city of Pompeii, it was the largest volcanic eruption ever filmed and one of the most destructive of all time."

The docu is packed with information, insights and awesome images, and has a gripping narrative constructed like a detective story, with suspense building up to a climax.

The film opens with a contented community of Aetas at the foot of the mountain—men, women and children going about their daily ways. Suddenly, some point to the sky. The mountain in the background is spewing smoke.

Then follow sequences of scientists racing against time; the exodus of people from the land of their ancestors; an eight-month-pregnant woman who insists on staying; journalists camping on the slope to film and broadcast the day-to-day developments.

Compelling

Certainly the most compelling anecdote, reenacted like melodrama in a golden light, is that of some 100 Aetas, some of them children, who go into a cave on the mountainside and, for days, try to appease the angry god with prayers and offerings.

No one could have foreseen what happened next.

On June 7, 12 and 15, there occurred a series of eruptions. Narrates the NGC: "The initial eruption sent a smoke plume 95,000 km straight up into the atmosphere. Even its sound wave shot straight up into the sky, so the explosion happened in absolute silence."

On June 15 at 11:55 a.m., Mt. Pinatubo released an energy 22,000 times more powerful than the bomb in Hiroshima. High noon turned to midnight.

Says the NGC: "The eruption created the biggest volcanic cloud of the 20th century, altering weather conditions for the next three years."

Despite all this, only less than 300 lost their lives. But for the intervention of modern science, the docu points out, it could have been hundreds of thousands.

("Pinatubo" will be aired again tomorrow, 11 a.m.; and Oct. 22, 9 a.m.)

BIGFOOT'S beach front facilities and academy on Mactan Island.

Hollywood goes to Cebu

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—My columns on the Toronto International Film Festival drew a lot of response (thank you); one of the most interesting came from Singapore.

Michael Gleissner wrote, "I read your column with great interest. You may be interested to know that one of the most notable (festival) entries, '3 Needles,' directed by **Thom Fitzgerald** and starring **Lucy Liu, Shawn Ashmore, Chloe Sevigny** and Olympia Dukakis was actually financed by Bigfoot Partners which is the investment arm of Bigfoot Entertainment. I am the executive producer on this movie."

What piqued my interest was this part: "I assume you are aware that Bigfoot Entertainment has a large presence in the Philippines with a production facility in Cebu. Also, the International Academy of Film and Television (IAFT) with its large campus in Cebu (a US$8-million investment) is a Bigfoot Company."

Whoa! I fired an e-mail to Michael and asked a barrage of questions.

By coincidence, a colleague told me excitedly that a publicist actually quit her job at Sony Pictures International to move to the Philippines. This peer of mine from The Netherlands dreams of visiting our country (as do several other colleagues). So his tone when he told me about an LA publicist making the big jump to 'Pinas was one of vicarious thrill.

KACY Andrews: "We couldn't be happier."

Confirmed

At a film screening several nights ago, a Sony Pictures International publicist confirmed that it was Jessica Kelly who actually left for a new career—and a new life—in the Philippines. Her new employer? Bigfoot Entertainment, of course.

When I got home from the screening, guess whose e-mail popped in? Jessica's! "I just arrived [in Cebu]... about five hours ago, and I cannot wipe the grin off my face," she said.

Jessica will be the company's marketing communications coordinator. A quick visit to Bigfoot's website (www.bigfootentertainment.com) explained why she was grinning. Photos of the filmmaking facilities and the IAFT show brand-new structures close to the beach on Mactan Island.

Filipino filmmakers should also be grinning. Bigfoot is inviting Pinoy talents to submit film projects for possible financing, via www.bigfootpartners.com. **Kacy Andrews**, Bigfoot CEO, and Filipino-American **Alec Mapa**, told me, "We would love to fund more films by Filipinos. We have a list of requirements ... one of which is, the project must be in English." (Visit the website for details.)

Via e-mail I interviewed Michael Gleissner and Daphne Chua (both based in Singapore) and Kacy Andrews (in LA).

How did you choose Cebu as site?

Michael (M): I came to Cebu on a business trip across Southeast Asia, and what I intended to be a quick stop ... turned into weeks as Sept. 11 hit during my stay in 2001. Impressed by the warmth and hospitality of the Cebuano people, I set up a small office for Bigfoot Communications, which is now employing more than 500 people.

Two years later, Bigfoot also acquired Creatron Ads, a local advertising agency with a sizeable video production crew headed by businesswoman **Lilu Alino**, now head of Creatives.

More specifically, how did you choose the campus location?

M: [We considered] the site's proximity to Mactan International Airport and to top resorts like the Shangri-La to accommodate international talents who require top facilities during their stay.

Why should aspiring film and TV talents enroll at IAFT?

Kacy (K): Our program offers an education similar to some of the top film schools in the US for a third of the cost. We employ some of the teachers who have taught at the LA Film School, UCLA, NYU and USC. We have state-of-the-art equipment and brand-new facilities, including soundstages. We offer an intensive hands-on training program. All students will graduate with the experience of having produced their own short films. Our proximity to beaches, jungles and the unique culture in the Philippines provide interesting locations. We offer underwater photography and videography courses unique to our program. Learning in an exotic location in a foreign land should be appealing to international students. (More information at: www.study-film.com.)

The website states that classes begin in 2006.

Daphne (D): The first batch of one-year immersion program will start in January 2006.

How is the enrollment rate so far?

D: We are still in the process of recruitment.

Do you offer scholarships? (Tuition is US$8,000 for international students and US$5,000 for students from the Philippines; financial aid is also available.)

K: We are currently working on a scholarship program for the local market.

So the campus also serves as production facilities for actual projects?

M: Bigfoot Productions moved ... into the production offices on the Mactan site in early August. Since [then] the following projects have been finalized: the first two episodes of "Diving Asia"; the travel show "Nautical Angels"; the music video for my song "Where Are You Now?" (Digidance Records, for the European market); the music video for the remix of "Bakit Ngayon Ka Lang," which I directed; the "Behind the Scenes" footage of the "Nautical Angels Underwater" calendar 2006.

Have Pinoy filmmakers submitted project proposals?

K: We have a few ... that we are currently reviewing.

Are there Filipinos holding key positions at Bigfoot?

M: There are many, as Bigfoot has over 500 employees in Cebu.

D: **Caesar Ditan** (sales and marketing director, IAFT) and **Ivan Kintanar** (post production supervisor). Other Pinoys holding key positions in Bigfoot Entertainment (this does not include the Bigfoot Group of Companies) include: **Loraine Garcia**, chief financial controller; **Stephanie Manuel**, director of human resources and administration; **Mark Cabaluna**, vice president—technical services; and **Gemma Lucero**, academic director.

Your personal thoughts on Filipinos and the Philippines?

M: I believe that Pinoys ... deserve world-class facilities to export their creativity beyond the local borders. Their proximity to American culture and proficiency in English make it easy for international productions to consider the Philippines.

K: Being here ... we couldn't be happier.

(E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com.)

MICHAEL Gleissner: "Filipino talents deserve world-class facilities."

LA Times declares 'Sigaw' a 'stunner'

LOS ANGELES—YAM LARANAS' "SIGAW (The Echo)" is off to a screaming good start at the fifth annual Screamfest Horror Film Festival and Screenplay Competition which runs here until Oct. 23.

Los Angeles Times' film reviewer Kevin Thomas declared the thriller of Laranas, who is now represented by a Hollywood talent agent, as "a real stunner."

In a capsule review, Thomas said the Richard Gutierrez-Angel Locsin starrer was also a "stylish chiller."

He added: "Laranas, a master at creating an ominous atmosphere, builds to an exceptionally rigorous, satisfying conclusion. 'The Echo' could easily become a cult film."

"The Echo," which won several awards in the 2004 Metro Manila Film Festival, including a Best Child Performer award for Janella Denise Guevara, will be shown on Wednesday, Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m. at the Universal Studios Cinemas, 100 Universal City Plaza in Universal City. ***Ruben Nepales, LA Correspondent***

From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper:
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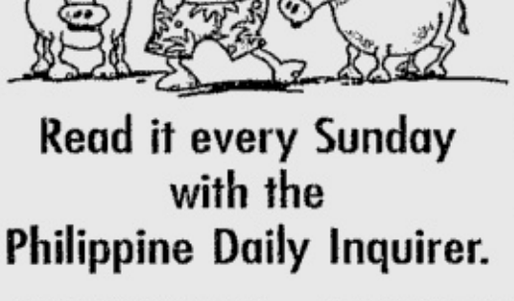

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

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Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor Margie Ouimpo-Espino

From sugar farms to a theme park

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

ONE OF THE BEST THINGS entrepreneur Cesar Mario O. Mamon ever did for his career was to become a renewed Roman Catholic in 1997.

Mamon tells SundayBiz that without the change of mind and heart that came with spiritual enrichment, he would not have been able to weather the crises that theme park Enchanted Kingdom went through following the Asian currency crisis that started in July that year.

"That somehow prepared us for the road we were to take," says Enchanted Kingdom president Mamon, whose family owns part of the country's biggest theme park in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

That road took the theme park through debt problems, fluctuating receipts and operational challenges associated with running the first world-class theme park in the country.

It would have been easier for the Mamon family to just cut losses and give up on the venture and invest elsewhere.

Patience

But the 51-year-old Mamon chose to persevere with the famous patience of Job, saying he and his partners have about 500 employees and their families to take care of.

More than that, Mamon says the venture gives him the unique opportunity to show good traits of Filipinos.

"The venture is worth it because here, Filipinos line up properly, they throw their garbage, they smile and they are with their families," Mamon says.

Enchanted Kingdom has been through the worst, Mamon says, and things are looking up for the theme park as it celebrates its 10th year of providing entertainment to Filipino families.

"Up to now, it is still a challenge to keep it afloat. But it is blessed and I believe that its time will come," he says.

Mamon can afford to wait because for him and his family, material wealth is temporary and profit should not be the sole motive for running a corporation.

Anything that comes quickly can leave just as quickly, he says.

That is one of the lessons he learned at the feet of his father who was responsible for the agriculture operations of the Yulo family's former sugar estate in Canlubang.

The lesson was reinforced when he became a renewed Catholic.

Mamon remembers hanging around the motor pool of the hacienda, leading to his lifelong fascination with anything mechanical.

First money

It was there where he first earned money as he helped in the irrigation of the golf course. The elder Mamon gave the grade school student a handsome pay of P5 a day.

Through hard work and the sweat of his brow, Mamon says his father eventually earned enough money to get his own sugar land also in Canlubang.

As the eldest of four siblings, he helped his father take care of the sprawling farm.

He enhanced his knowledge in agriculture when he went to the University of the Philippines in Los Baños.

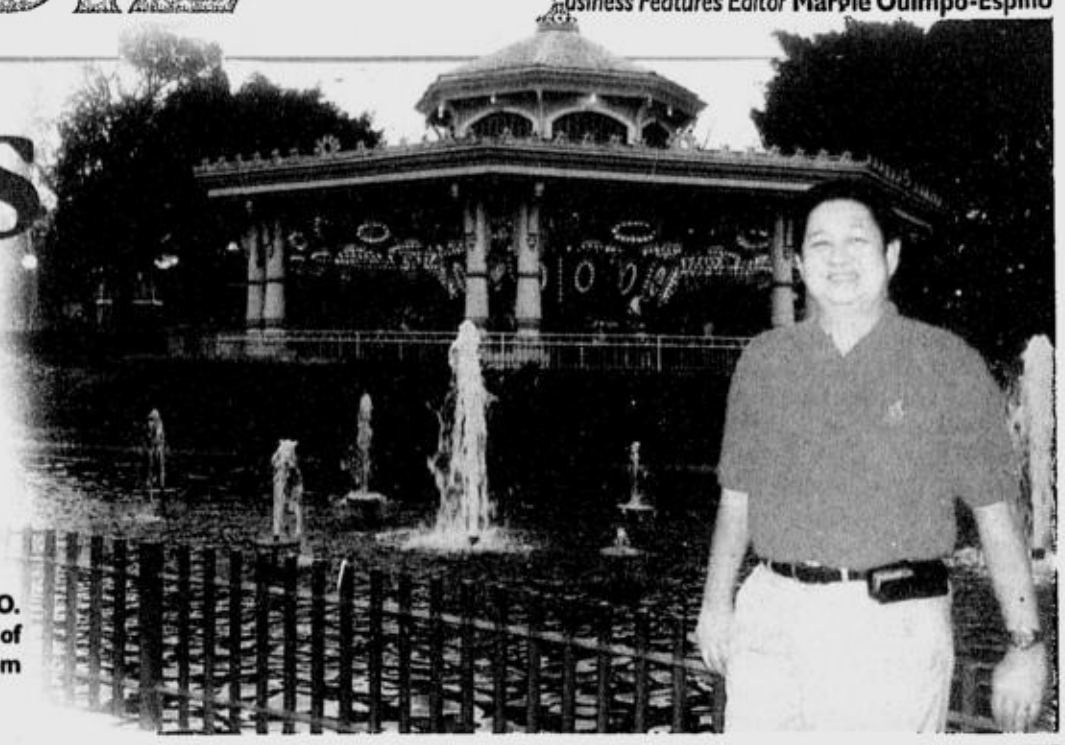
He left in 1976 not just with a Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness Management, but also a girlfriend, Cynthia, who would become his wife and partner in 1977.

Mamon says he wanted to take up postgraduate studies after a short stint at the Central Bank in Manila as part of the technical board for agricultural credit.

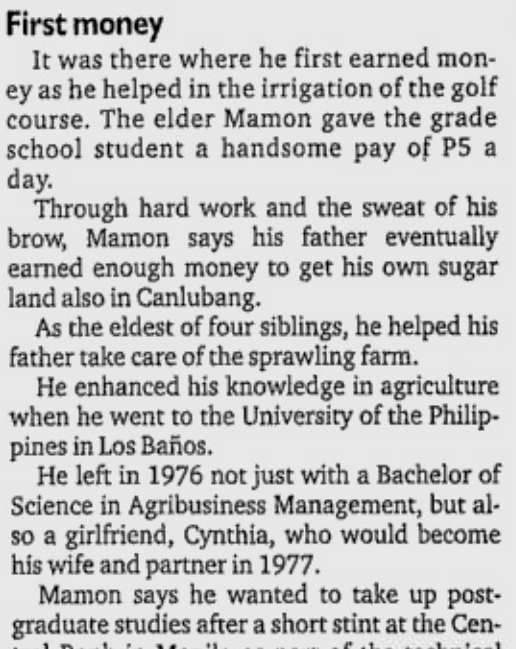
But his father fell ill and he found himself taking over the responsibility of running various farms accumulated by his father.

It was quite a big operation, he says, and when some of the farms were later sold to developers who put up subdivisions and industrial estates, he and the family decided to use part of the money to invest in a theme park in 1992.

FROM SUGAR/ B4



CESAR Mario O. Mamon, president of Enchanted Kingdom



A RIDE at Enchanted Kingdom

The power to grow your wealth is rewarding. This is especially true in a constantly changing and dynamic investment environment. That's why you need to be ready to act as the investment market upgrades from Common Trust Fund (CTF) to Unit Investment Trust Fund (UITF).

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday BIZ
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005

Win a trip via text

TO CELEBRATE ITS 130TH anniversary in the Philippines, HSBC tickles everyone's fancy with HSBC Destinations—a promotion open to anyone, which offers an incredible all-expense paid trip to any of the 77 countries and territories where HSBC is located. And 10 lucky winners can have their dream trip come true!

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"Anyone can join. That's the best thing about this offer. Whether it's a trip to a favorite place or a new exotic getaway, Filipinos have 77 destinations to choose from. From Mauritius to Mexico, Canada to China, Brazil to Bahrain, Mauritius, or the UK and USA, this is surely a once-in-a-lifetime treat from HSBC you should not miss," said Warner Manning, HSBC CEO.

HSBC has been operating in the Philippines since 1875.

The HSBC 77 Destinations promo is nationwide and starts on Oct. 20, 2005. It will run until Dec. 18, 2005. For more information on the mechanics, you may log on to www.hsbc.com.ph.

Thai Airways' fashion in the sky, Marriott flexrez, the new iPod

By Sandra Garcia
Contributor

MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL Inc. has streamlined the travel planning and booking process with Marriott Flexrez. Aside from booking hotel rooms on Marriott.com, online consumers can now make air and car reservations on the same site (even if they're not booking a hotel room) and even enjoy competitive airfare and car rental rates.

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Marriott Flexrez is one of the many features of Marriott's At Your Service program. Whether it is Marriott's Look No Further Best Rate Guarantee, or pre-arrival planning service and "virtual concierge," At Your Service focuses on the total guest experience from point of reservation to checkout.

NEW UNIFORM of Thailand's national carrier.

Fashion in the air

Designing uniforms for airline staff is a major challenge, as they must fulfill practical as well as aesthetic considerations. When selecting a designer for Thai's rebranding, the specifications also included other requirements. The new clothing should be elegant, but designed to reflect the Thai Touch, in line with the airline's unique brand. Allowance also had to be made for the various seasons in different destinations served by Thai, while the fabrics used should be manufactured in Thailand, with colors in line with the company's new corporate identity, which was recently unveiled here in Manila in an elaborate cocktail reception attended by the travel agency industry, diplomatic corps, corporate giants and the press.

BIZTRAVEL

After a lengthy process of evaluation, Thai selected one of Thailand's leading fashion designers, Pichitra Boonyarataphan and the RTD Textile Industry Co.

The results are spectacular and, after close consultation with the various departments to be sure that they were happy with their proposed outfits, manufacturing was put in motion, a huge tailoring task in view of the numbers involved.

Khun Pichitra adopted some ideas from clothes and uniforms worn in royal palaces, with accessories reflecting Thai traditional craftsmanship. The designers were adapted to synchronize with the classical perception of Thai and Thailand, and to reflect the company's corporate mission: "High Trust, World Class and Thai Touch."

Fabrics, all produced in Thailand, are crease resistant, absorbent and comfortable in both hot and cold climates, while colors employ the corporate identity elements of purple, pink and gold. The outfits are also flexible, with a mix and match approach to suit individual preferences of the wearers and different working situations.

The elegant new uniforms will soon be seen in airports and Thai offices around the world and will certainly enhance the stylish reputation of the airline's staff, giving them a distinctly different appearance and inspiring pride in their fashion heritage

The new iPod

These days, one's best traveling companion can only be the new lighter, thinner iPod 30GB or 60 GB models. From just playing songs to showing photos, the new iPod models also play videos. Both models can hold up to 15,000 songs, full-color album art and up to 25,000 photos. With up to 150 hours of video and a 2.5-inch color display and up to 20 hours of battery life, who cares about a 14-hour non-stop flight?

Feedback at sandragracegarcia@gmail.com

He wanted to be a priest ...

From page B12

experience also opened his eyes to the way businesses are handled there.

"What I have seen in Manila modified the entrepreneurial skills that I have at hand," he says.

So, when he came back home, he worked in his father's business ventures and used what he learned in Manila.

Eventually, Litoy got frustrated with the corn business, which some Chinese cartels in Cagayan de Oro controlled.

"I pity the farmers who did not have the choice but to sell their produce at a very cheap price than return home with nothing," he says.

Because the farmers have only so much earnings, they turned to borrowings, which caused lending businesses to flourish.

He broached the idea of opening a lending business to his father.

Though Litoy's father found the lending business odd, he still agreed to give him a start-up capital of P50,000.

In 1992, at 26, he tried joining politics.

He ended up losing during the mayoral elections in Malaybalay City.

"Perhaps, becoming a priest or a politician was not meant for me. My mother did not want me to join the priesthood and when I joined that election, the only issue they raised against me was that I was too young to become mayor," Litoy recalls.

In 1998, after his lending business grew, Litoy bought the losing Rural Bank of Lantapan for P9 million.

It was later renamed Asian Hills Bank. From that modest beginning, Asian Hills Bank grew and opened four branches in Talakag, Dangcagan, Sumilao and Manolo Fortich towns.

Asian Hills now has a capital asset of P200 million.

In 1999, Litoy also opened the Society Rural Bank in Opol, Misamis Oriental.

His financing company, Hills Small Loan Inc., also grew to 11 branches.

Now, he has about 350 "home-grown staff."

Litoy, the sixth in the brood of eight, comes from a family which frowns on arrogance although his father has a strong determination to succeed.

Litoy recounts how his father would always remind him and his siblings about the value of hard work and the dignity of labor.

"My father was only 19 when he journeyed from Cebu to Mindanao (in 1949). He would always tell us that he brought only with him his pair of slippers, a pair of short pants and two T-shirts and the rest is history," Litoy tells the INQUIRER.

From a penniless man from Barile, Cebu, his father acquired vast landholdings here.

Even before Marcos' agrarian reform, Litoy says his father already distributed lands to relatives and friends from Barile, who relocated here after they heard of his luck. Litoy's father even allocated land to his tenants. His father, now 75, found owning such big landholding as too much for him.

Litoy says his father also instilled in them early the difficulty of earning money.

He says they used to wake up at 4 o'clock in the morning to join his father in selling "pandesal" in the neighborhood even though they were already living a good life.

"He could not just sit around. He ventured into anything like *sari-sari* store, piggery, corn production and a lot more. He fears he might lose all what he worked for if he stopped working hard," he says.

Litoy says this was the kind of life he grew up with.

"I saw my father's basic entrepreneurial skills when he started business in corn production and processes. I saw him help a lot of people, including our impoverished relatives and neighbors," he says.

The micro financing scheme that Litoy opened now provides doors to hopeless and marginalized people here under his "Dalan sa Kalambuan" (road to progress) program that provides loan to people without any collateral.

Unlike banks and other institutions that require a long list of documents before lending to borrowers, the Hills Small Loan Inc. only requires borrowers to follow two strict requirements: people empowerment through building good credit character and disciplined business ethics.

Litoy's firm also gives orientation and seminars to individuals on how to organize themselves so they could acquire loans.

"If I would be successful in making a difference in the lives of these people to the nth generations, then I would say I have lived a purpose-driven life. I love to see helping people the way I can while I am still alive rather than leave them with money, without seeing how they spend it," Litoy says.

He has also entered into the hospital business in order to provide health care to his borrowers.

He is working on a foundation that could sustain the scholars he has been sending to school.

He foresees that his venture would further grow so he could help more people.

"This might be a wild dream but with God's will and grace this might come true as I do my share while God does his too," Litoy says.

KING JAMES AUCTION CALENDAR

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Lot 48-D-2, Row Guevarra Subd., Legazpi City
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Minimum Bid Price : 1,803,000.00

LOT 7 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 4,942 sqm. F.A.: 77 sqm.
Lot 7927 Tambongon, Bacacay
Minimum Bid Price : 34,000.00

LOT 8 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 4,075 sqm.
Lot 3, Brgy. Rd., Interior Bañag, Daraga
Minimum Bid Price : 2,727,000.00

LOT 9 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 1,250 sqm. F.A.: 100 sqm.
Lot 13306-A, National Rd Bascaran, Daraga
Minimum Bid Price : 651,000.00

LOT 10 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 577 sqm. F.A.: 392 sqm.
Lot 9, Blk 7, St. Francis Subd., Poblacion, Daraga
Minimum Bid Price : 948,000.00

LOT 11 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 240 sqm. F.A.: 405 sqm.
Lot 22 Blk 10, Dona Maria Subd., Tagas, Daraga
Minimum Bid Price : 2,266,000.00

LOT 12 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 936 sqm. F.A.: 228 sqm.
Lot 1423-C-2 San Francisco Makapot
Minimum Bid Price : 860,000.00

LOT 13 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 3,357 sqm.
Lot 1275 Payahan, Malilipot
Minimum Bid Price : 493,000.00

LOT 14 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 750 sqm.
6706-B-4-B-2-J, Rd. Lot, Badian, Oas
Minimum Bid Price : 128,000.00

LOT 15 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 635 sqm. F.A.: 88 sqm.
Lot 1953, Brgy. Rd., Baranghawon, Tabaco City
Minimum Bid Price : 871,000.00

LOT 16 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 400 sqm. F.A.: 112 sqm.
Lot Nos. 7-A & 7-B, Camia St., Bombon, Tabaco City
Minimum Bid Price : 773,000.00

LOT 17 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 10,838 sqm.
Lot 5004, Brgy. Vista, San Miguel Island, Tabaco City
Minimum Bid Price : 93,000.00

LOT 18 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 996 sqm.
Lot 13, Blk 1 Tiwi Hotspring Resort, Bano, Tiwi
Minimum Bid Price : 51,000.00

LOT 19 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 323 sqm.
Lot 14, Blk 1, Tiwi Hotspring Resort, Bano, Tiwi
Minimum Bid Price : 17,000.00

LOT 20 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 332 sqm.
Lot 15, Blk 1, Tiwi Hotspring Resort, Bano, Tiwi
Minimum Bid Price : 17,000.00

LOT 21 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 363 sqm.
Lot 15, Tiwi Hotsprings Resort, Bano, Tiwi
Minimum Bid Price : 19,000.00

LOT 22 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 364 sqm.
Lot 16, Blk 1, Tiwi Hotspring Resort, Bano, Tiwi
Minimum Bid Price : 19,000.00

LOT 23 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 425 sqm.
Lot 16, Tiwi Hotsprings Resort, Bano, Tiwi
Minimum Bid Price : 22,000.00

LOT 24 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 376 sqm.
Lot 21, Tiwi Hotsprings Resort, Bano, Tiwi
Minimum Bid Price : 20,000.00

LOT 25 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 348 sqm.
Lot 22, Tiwi Hotsprings Resort, Bano, Tiwi
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 26 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 374 sqm.
Lot 23, Tiwi Hotsprings Resort, Bano, Tiwi
Minimum Bid Price : 20,000.00

CAMARINES NORTE

LOT 27 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 834 sqm.
Lot 598-H, Alby, Avancena Subd., Brgy. Lag-On, Daet
Minimum Bid Price : 224,000.00

LOT 28 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 1,138 sqm.
Lot 500-B-2-G-2-G-2-E-4, Alley, Avanceña Subd., Brgy. Lag-On, Daet
Minimum Bid Price : 436,000.00

LOT 29 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 579 sqm.
Lot 593-D-2, Alley, Avanceña Subd., Brgy. Lag-On, Daet
Minimum Bid Price : 111,000.00

CAMARINES SUR

LOT 30 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 600 sqm. F.A.: 66 sqm.
Lot 2949, Row, Buluang, Baao
Minimum Bid Price : 316,000.00

LOT 31 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 600 sqm. F.A.: 60 sqm.
Lot 1027-P Brgy. Buluang, Baao
Minimum Bid Price : 568,000.00

LOT 32 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 380 sqm. F.A.: 341 sqm.
Lot 277 Provincial Road, Bo. San Antonio, Calabanga
Minimum Bid Price : 1,787,000.00

LOT 33 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 492 sqm. F.A.:
Minimum Bid Price
WITHDRAWN

LOT 34 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 918 sqm. F.A.: 386 sqm.
Lots 190 & 191, Prov'l. Rd., Sta. Cruz, Calabanga
Minimum Bid Price : 2,388,000.00

LOT 35 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 973.04 sqm. F.A.: 221 sqm.
Lot 522 National Road Bo Sta. Salud, Calabanga
Minimum Bid Price : 1,221,000.00

LOT 36 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 621 sqm.
Lot 3025 & 3022 Miranda St., Bo. San Nicolas, Canaman
Minimum Bid Price : 72,000.00

LOT 37 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 150 sqm. F.A.: 141 sqm.
Lot 281-P, La Purisima St., Goa
Minimum Bid Price : 321,000.00

LOT 38 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 453 sqm.
Minimum Bid Price
WITHDRAWN

LOT 39 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 174 sqm. F.A.: 139 sqm.
Lot 3505 Tirad Pass St., San Nicolas Iriga City
Minimum Bid Price : 463,000.00

LOT 40 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 595 sqm. F.A.: 132 sqm.
Lot No. 7293, Brgy. Road, San Roque, Lagonoy
Minimum Bid Price : 482,000.00

LOT 41 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 321 sqm. F.A.: 110 sqm.
Lot 5068-A, Brgy. Busak, Libmanan
Minimum Bid Price : 612,000.00

LOT 42 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 701 sqm. F.A.: 237 sqm.
Lot 4031 Miracle St. San Vicente, Libmanan
Minimum Bid Price : 811,000.00

LOT 43 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 1,105 sqm. F.A.: 402 sqm.
Lot 1,2 & 3, All Of Blk. 7 Cor. St. Jude & Sto. Niño Sts., Peñafrancia Subd., Brgy. San Felipe, Naga City
Minimum Bid Price : 3,590,000.00

LOT 44 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 733 sqm. F.A.: 516 sqm.
Lot 19 National Road, Poblacion, Ocampo
Minimum Bid Price : 2,179,000.00

LOT 45 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 3,452 sqm. F.A.: 240 sqm.
Lots 2-G-1 & 1, Alcantara St., Poblacion, Ocampo
Minimum Bid Price : 4,444,000.00

LOT 46 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 370 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 19 La Paz Subd, Anayan, Pili
Minimum Bid Price : 148,000.00

LOT 47 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 450 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 14 La Paz Subd. Anayan, Pili
Minimum Bid Price : 288,000.00

LOT 48 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 450 sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 14 La Paz Subd, Anayan, Pili
Minimum Bid Price : 288,000.00

LOT 49 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 709 sqm. F.A.: 257 sqm.
4046-G-2-B 4046-G-2-E-1,&4046-G-2-E-2 Provincial Road, Bo. San Roque, Pili
Minimum Bid Price : 3,476,000.00

LOT 50 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 286 sqm. F.A.: 193 sqm.
Lot 43 Canuto St, San Vicente, Pili
Minimum Bid Price : 1,353,000.00

LOT 51 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 59,507 sqm.
Lot 596 & 593 Cagnipa, Presentacion
Minimum Bid Price : 135,000.00

LOT 52 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 5,711 sqm.
Lot 812 Parubcan, Presentacion
Minimum Bid Price : 13,000.00

LOT 53 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 53,783 sqm.
Lot 407 Poblacion, Presentacion
Minimum Bid Price : 61,000.00

LOT 54 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 1,482 sqm. F.A.: 310 sqm.
Lot 815 & 816 National Road Brgy. Pamukid, San Fernando
Minimum Bid Price : 1,604,000.00

LOT 55 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 991 sqm. F.A.: 187 sqm.
Portion Of Lot 2884, Brgy. Road, Bongtiw, Brgy. Pugay, San Jose
Minimum Bid Price : 746,000.00

LOT 56 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 278 sqm. F.A.: 179 sqm.
#14 Real St., San Juan, San Jose
Minimum Bid Price : 668,000.00

LOT 57 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 610 sqm. F.A.: 253 sqm.
Lot 3 National Road, Brgy. Del Carmen, Sangay
Minimum Bid Price : 1,012,000.00

LOT 58 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 534 sqm. F.A.: 148 sqm.
Lot 2713, Provincial Rd., Binglay,Tinambac
Minimum Bid Price : 705,000.00

CATANDUANES

LOT 59 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 492 sqm. F.A.: 104 sqm.
1547, Nat'l. Rd., Tubli, Caramoran
Minimum Bid Price : 210,000.00

LOT 60 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 118 sqm. F.A.: 50 sqm.
Lot 2064, San Pedro, Sta. Cruz, San Andres
Minimum Bid Price : 210,000.00

LOT 61 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 704 sqm. F.A.: 120 sqm.
Lot 3115, 418 & 3073, National Road, San Jose, Viga
Minimum Bid Price : 180,000.00

LOT 62 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 123 sqm. F.A.: 144 sqm.
No. A. Concepcion, Virac
Minimum Bid Price : 183,000.00

LOT 63 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 112 sqm. F.A.: 70 sqm.
Lot No. 033, F. Tacorda, Francia, Virac
Minimum Bid Price : 378,000.00

SORSOGON

LOT 64 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 2,000 sqm.
Lot 3653-Y, Brgy. Road, Sitio Pawa, Brgy. Lajong, Bulan
Minimum Bid Price : 801,000.00

LOT 65 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 222 sqm. F.A.: 444 sqm.
Lot 1-B-1, Quezon St., Poblacion, Bulan
Minimum Bid Price : 2,736,000.00

LOT 66 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 830 sqm.
Lot 6466, Brgy. San Ramon, Bulan
Minimum Bid Price : 35,000.00

LOT 67 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 65 sqm.
Lot 3688-B-3-B-1, Row, Brgy. Balogo, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 50,000.00

LOT 68 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 1,992 sqm. F.A.: 91 sqm.
Lot 3081-B-1 J.S. Reyes, Brgy. Bitan-O, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 4,334,000.00

LOT 69 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 532 sqm.
Lot 3398-C Jimenez-Tan Subd., Brgy. Burabod, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 543,000.00

LOT 70 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 205 sqm.
Lot 1, Blk 2, City Road, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 58,000.00

LOT 71 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 239 sqm.
Lot 1, Blk 6, Road Lot, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 40,000.00

LOT 72 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 207 sqm.
Lot 10, Blk 2, Road Lot, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 42,000.00

LOT 73 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 209 sqm.
Lot 13, Blk 2, City Road, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 59,000.00

LOT 74 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 220 sqm.
Lot 14, Blk 2, Road Lot, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 60,000.00

LOT 75 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 209 sqm.
Lot 15, Blk 2, City Road, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 51,000.00

LOT 76 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 248 sqm.
Lot 16, Blk 2, Road Lot, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 50,000.00

LOT 77 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 285 sqm.
Lot 18, Blk 2, Road Lot, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 46,000.00

LOT 78 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 247 sqm.
Lot 2, Blk 6, Road Lot, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 50,000.00

LOT 79 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 209 sqm.
Lot 20, Blk 2, City Road, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 51,000.00

LOT 80 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 209 sqm.
Lot 22, Blk 2, City Road, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 51,000.00

LOT 81 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 257 sqm.
Lot 23, Blk 2, City Road, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 72,000.00

LOT 82 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 207 sqm.
Lot 4, Blk 2, Road Lot, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 42,000.00

LOT 83 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 207 sqm.
Lot 6, Blk 2, Road Lot, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 42,000.00

LOT 84 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 207 sqm.
Lot 8, Blk 2, Road Lot, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 42,000.00

LOT 85 - W/ makeshift Improvement
L.A.: 209 sqm.
Lot 9, Blk 2, City Road, Brgy. Cambulaga, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 51,000.00

LOT 86 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 235 sqm. F.A.: 141 sqm.
Lot 29 Blk 45 Olvs Pangpang, Sorsogon City
Minimum Bid Price : 389,000.00

LOT 87 - Lot & Improvement
L.A.: 240 sqm. F.A.: 40 sqm.
Lot 27 Blk 45 Olvs Pangpang, Sorsogon City
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LOT 88 - Vacant Lot
L.A.: 235 sqm.
Lot 3039 B-4-A Brgy. Piot, Sorsogon City
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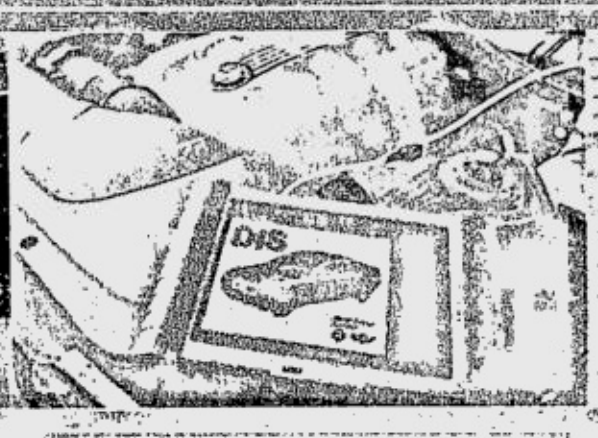

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Seoul's Little Manila

SEOUL—STACKS OF CURRY POWDER, shrimp stir fry sauce, instant noodles, shampoo, CDs—all from the Philippines—can be seen on the Hyehwa Rotary.

"Annyeonghaseyo," says a Filipino truck owner to Korean passers-by. "I've been in Korea for a year and I love living here." She also offers a slice of Filipino pudding, made of grated cassava roots, which tastes like sweet potatoes.

A healthy-looking Filipino man takes out boxes of frozen tilapia fish from his truck and sets up for the day. "Tilapia tastes softer than other fish," he says. He also sells dried fish and fermented salty fish.

Most of the Filipinos at the market are migrant workers, often exhausted and stressed out from frequent nightshifts. Speaking in their language, Tagalog, they meet like-minded Filipino friends, hang out, and join the mass at the nearby Hyewha-dong Catholic Church.

Hernandez, 39, who sells international phone cards and a handful of second-hand mobile phones says he rarely sees Koreans at this Sunday market. "They are all Filipinos. Few other foreigners and Koreans come here on Sundays."

Another vendor lures passers-by with "turon," fried spring rolls stuffed with banana. The vendor peels off the banana skin and wraps the banana with dough, dips it in brown sugar and fries it.

"Isn't it fun? Mmm. This is quite sweet," says a Korean man to his family as he tastes the turon. "I live around here, so I come here often. There are many interesting foods on Sundays here. This market used to be a small one but has grown little by little and now it's big."

The intriguing Filipino delicacies do not stop there. Steamed duck eggs are available for Filipinos who long for a taste of home. Some visitors' foreheads wrinkle up at the scene but the seller brags that they are good for joints and stamina.

Across from the vending trucks, Filipino women sit on the street and sell vegetables such as bitter melon, sweet potato stalks, spinach, and long beans.

As more and more Filipino products fill up the street, the space gets crowded. Then, harsh yelling is heard from a couple of crackdown staff from the local Jongno District Office who are trying to secure enough space on the pedestrian street. "If you don't cooperate with us, you can't sell these here. Do you understand?" says the man to the vendors whose boxes of fish and vegetables seemed to g et in the way of pedestrians. Filipino sellers put their boxes back on their trucks and the market regains its vigor as if nothing had happened.

When the clock stri kes 1:30 p.m., crowds of Filipinos go into Hyewha-dong Cathlic Church which holds a mass in Tagalog as well as in English. "As over 80 percent of Filipinos are Roman Catholics, thousands of Filipinos in Korea come to the mass here. I've been here over seven years," says Wilma, 43, who works as a maid during the week and helps the proceedings of the mass on Sundays.

Many Filipinos spare no effort and time in joining the mass every Sunday. Factory coworkers, Herman and Maria, make a four-hour journey from Icheon in Gyeonggi Province. "It is the only mass in Tagalog—we have no other choice. But we like being in here," they say.

FILIPINOS frequenting a market in Korea.

Even though crowds of Filipinos nearly block the entrance of the church where the Filipino market starts, Korean churchgoers do not seem to feel uncomfortable about it. "I think it's good to offer mass to Filipinos because they have rights to their religion and their culture. If we were in their shoes, we would want to do the same in a foreign land," says a Korean church member Yoo Myeong-ja, 50.

Many Filipinos in Korea carry on with their exhausting lives but put all their worries and troubles before God and forget them in this "little Manila."

To get to the church, take Subway Line No. 4 to Hyehwa Station. Come out of Exit No. 1 and walk toward the end of the street. The market is formed along the Hyewha Rotary, from Dongseong High School to the entrance of Hyehwa-dong Catholic Church. *Korea Herald / Asia News Network*

From sugar farms to a theme park

From page B1

"We were liquid then and we started planning in 1992," Mamon says, "We were looking for a project outside the traditional real estate and retail projects."

Mamon initially looked into bringing in toys but he was discouraged by some well-meaning friends. Then, in consultation with industry experts, the idea of investing in a theme park came up.

The idea caught his imagination and those of his partners, as a theme park on a big scale had not been done yet and the expert says the prospects were good.

"We talked to some of the big boys in the industry to partner with us, but nobody replied except for Knots' Berry Farm," he says.

Representatives from one of the oldest theme parks in the United States came in December 1993 and they looked at different sites to put up a theme park.

There was some initial agreement but Mamon says he and his group in the end decided to go independent to save on royalty payments.

Mamon contracted Landmark Entertainment to design the amusement park and by August 1994, the company broke ground.

In October 1995, Enchanted Kingdom opened to the public ... and was rained out.

"It was the rainy season," Mamon recalls with a laugh, "But the next six months were very good because it was new and a lot of people went there."

The challenge 10 years later is to keep the theme park new and exciting.

To celebrate its anniversary, Enchanted Kingdom is coming up with comic books around the wizard of Enchanted Kingdom; animated series for television depicting his adventures; and an animation studio within the park for visitors to watch artists at work on television and movie cartoons.

"We want to be the country's leader in wholesome family entertainment," he says, "and that means giving the best in service, rides, attraction and safety."

"We hope that in the next 10 years, we could bring Enchanted Kingdom to the next level and be really competitive in the region," Mamon adds.

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Flying high with butterflies

By Sharon Wendy A. Robas

THROUGH THE YEARS, WEDDING FUNCTIONS have evolved from having the ubiquitous cake-cutting, bouquet and garter-throwing traditions to creating new concepts such as audio-visual presentations and, lately, releasing of live butterflies to make the affair more attractive and memorable.

Charlie Gaw has been in the "butterfly" business for five years now. He owns Acclaim Butterflies, a company which offers live butterfly releases for different events, sells butterfly-inspired souvenirs and creates butterfly-themed setups for any occasion.

Charlie says it started when one of his friends was getting married and was looking for butterflies to release. After finding a butterfly farm as a supplier, he and some friends from the Ateneo Graduate School conceived of the idea of marketing the butterflies and turning it into a business. They studied everything there was to know about butterflies—what they ate, how they lived, etc., to help them get started.

Charlie says there were already two to three players in the market at the time but the butterflies were a bit pricey at P100 apiece.

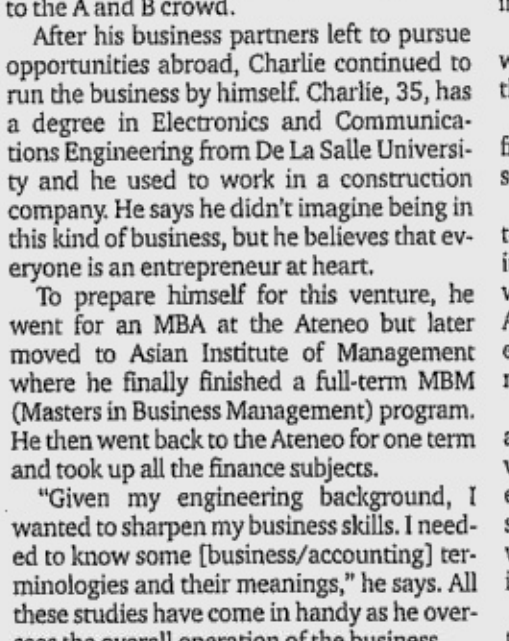
"When we entered the market, we lowered the price at around one-third," Charlie says. This move proved effective in their quest to tap the C, D, E markets since the live butterfly release concept usually caters to the A and B crowd.

After his business partners left to pursue opportunities abroad, Charlie continued to run the business by himself. Charlie, 35, has a degree in Electronics and Communications Engineering from De La Salle University and he used to work in a construction company. He says he didn't imagine being in this kind of business, but he believes that everyone is an entrepreneur at heart.

To prepare himself for this venture, he went for an MBA at the Ateneo but later moved to Asian Institute of Management where he finally finished a full-term MBM (Masters in Business Management) program. He then went back to the Ateneo for one term and took up all the finance subjects.

"Given my engineering background, I wanted to sharpen my business skills. I needed to know some [business/accounting] terminologies and their meanings," he says. All these studies have come in handy as he oversees the overall operation of the business.

Charlie explains that the butterfly breeding business has been in the country for about 20 to 30 years now. But most of these growers export the pupa to other countries. Acclaim's butterflies come from farms in Palawan and Bulacan but Charlie quickly clarifies that they are not from the commercial butterfly farms the two places are known for, but from "backyard growers" whom he is able to help in terms of marketing their products and uplifting their livelihood with his continuous orders.



Butterflies have two categories, Charlie explains: Wild and cultured. Wild butterflies are the ones caught in the forest, but catching of these variety has been limited by the DENR.

"We promote the cultured butterflies. And the policy of every cultured butterfly is that after you produce a certain batch in a week or a month, around five to 10 percent of the batch is released back to the forest," he shares. The most commonly used butterfly variety is the wood nymph.

Charlie states that their live butterfly release package includes cages or envelopes with decorations in accordance to the wedding's color motif. "We package it toward what the Metro Manila market wants. Because if you buy straight from the farm, *walang* presentation. So when we provide a product, we provide a complete package," he says.

For the live release package, 50 butterflies cost P2,100 while 100 butterflies cost P3,700, these include the decorated cages or envelopes. From time to time Acclaim gives promos or discounts, especially during months when stocks are full. Clients need to book their orders two weeks or a month before the event.

Souvenirs

Acclaim has also ventured into butterfly-inspired souvenirs.

"We got feedback from our clients who were looking for souvenirs to complement the butterfly release," Charlie says

Their first butterfly-inspired souvenirs are frames with real preserved butterflies. A personalized frame with one butterfly costs P250.

Other bestsellers are candles with butterfly designs and the cheaper than P100 items like the butterfly designed paperweights, table decor and handmade boxes. Also available are lamps, clocks, pen holders and other butterfly-inspired souvenirs made of glass, wood and resin.

Acclaim's personalized Unity Candle is also a hit with would-be couples—it's a gel candle with real preserved butterflies inside, decorated with colorful flowers and leaves and a stone on which the names of the couple are written. Costs reach P1,500 and up depending on the size.

Charlie says aside from the live releases and the souvenirs, clients also want the venues to have something related to butterflies.

Acclaim creates a small mockup of a butterfly garden that would amaze kids and other guests. The setup with 50 butterflies costs P7,000 but P3,000 is refundable upon return of the setup. This service is available only in Metro Manila.

Wider market

Last year, Acclaim conquered the malls to reach a wider market. Their first store opened at SM Megamall and, soon, other branches were launched in malls in Metro Manila.

Charlie says "ber" months are the peak for the business.

The creation of their website (www.butterflies.com.ph) has also boosted their sales.

But Charlie is not basking in their fast growing popularity. He says continuous research and development are needed to sustain the business. "I'm thinking of ways to expand my product lines because we couldn't just push the same products everytime. I want to develop more functional souvenir products," he explains.

'Be comfortable about things being different'

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

EDUARDO ROSINI, MICROSOFT Asia Pacific regional VP, is from Argentina. He lives in Singapore but is in charge of 16 countries.

If he occupied the post he has now 12 years ago, he would have had to travel extensively. But technology, particularly his company's, has made it easier to meet without having to be physically present.

"We have on-line meetings, and presentations. It's amazing today how you can share information," says the 38-year-old who is in charge of the marketing, sales, services, operations and business development efforts of Microsoft—the world's largest software firm—in 16 countries.

While Rosini still travels a lot, recently flying to Manila to attend Microsoft's tenth year anniversary in the country, he says he does not really have to micromanage Southeast Asia, Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand because he has good heads in each.

He does agree, however, that managing multi-cultures can be a challenge.

"The key is to understand that things are done in different ways. That there is no one way. We encourage the people to run the local businesses their way so long as they meet certain standards," said Rosini during an interview with the INQUIRER.

"It's really where you find the best results. You need to feel comfortable about things being different," he added.

It is this atmosphere in Microsoft that encourages a spirit of "intrapreneurship" and created some of the firm's big products.

For one, Rosini says he had the chance to be involved in the creation of the XBOX. This is one of his outstanding achievements—he and his team are credited for the successful development of XBOX in Europe from launch to making it the solid business it is today. He also developed a retail infrastructure that put Windows and Office in the hands of millions of consumers across the European region. XBOX is a game console created in 2001.

ROSINI

A MICROSOFT teaching trainor computer lab

"The XBOX was built from nothing," Rosini said. "One group had a passion for gaming. They talked to Bill Gates about it and he agreed to create a separate division."

Rosini said Microsoft is a very "flat organization with no large bureaucracies." This allows intrepreneurship to happen.

Despite the growth of the firm however, Rosini said they still try to meet and get to know customers and care for its employees like a family.

In the Philippines Microsoft has been active in "teaching trainor computer labs". Over the last 10 years it has trained some 50,000 teachers.

Rosini said the IT industry in the Philippines continues to grow at a much faster rate than the rest of Southeast Asia partly because of "catching up" and "the Philippines highly educated population allows the population to catch the new technology."

One area where Microsoft has been active was adopting computer lingo to the local language. dictionaries for Bahasa and 15 languages in India have been created and the one in Filipino is being finalized.

Rosini has been with Microsoft for 12 years. He was also the General Manager of Microsoft Argentina from 1997 to 1999. Under his management, Microsoft Argentina became one of the country's 10 most admired companies. He also played a key role in working hand-in-hand with the Argentinean government to establish intellectual property rights policies in the country.

Before joining Microsoft, Rosini was with a local software distributor in Argentina.

Computer program benefits public schools

THREE PUBLIC ELEMENTARY schools in Laguna acquired a whole set of computer equipment and facilities under the "Partnership in Computer Education" program of Philips Semiconductors Philippines, Inc. (PSPI) Cabuyao Plant.

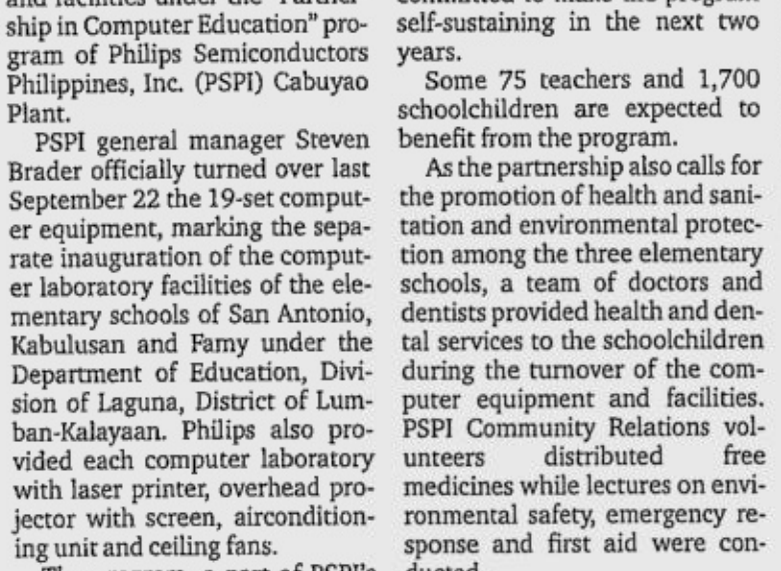
PSPI general manager Steven Brader officially turned over last September 22 the 19-set computer equipment, marking the separate inauguration of the computer laboratory facilities of the elementary schools of San Antonio, Kabulusan and Famy under the Department of Education, Division of Laguna, District of Lumban-Kalayaan. Philips also provided each computer laboratory with laser printer, overhead projector with screen, airconditioning unit and ceiling fans.

The program, a part of PSPI's social investment policy, aims at promoting computer awareness and literacy among school teachers and pupils. Under a memorandum of understanding with PSPI and DepEd's Laguna division, PSPI will train teachers in basic computer programs such as MS Word, Excel and Powerpoint to equip them with the competencies needed to train their pupils. DepEd, on the other hand, has committed to make the program self-sustaining in the next two years.

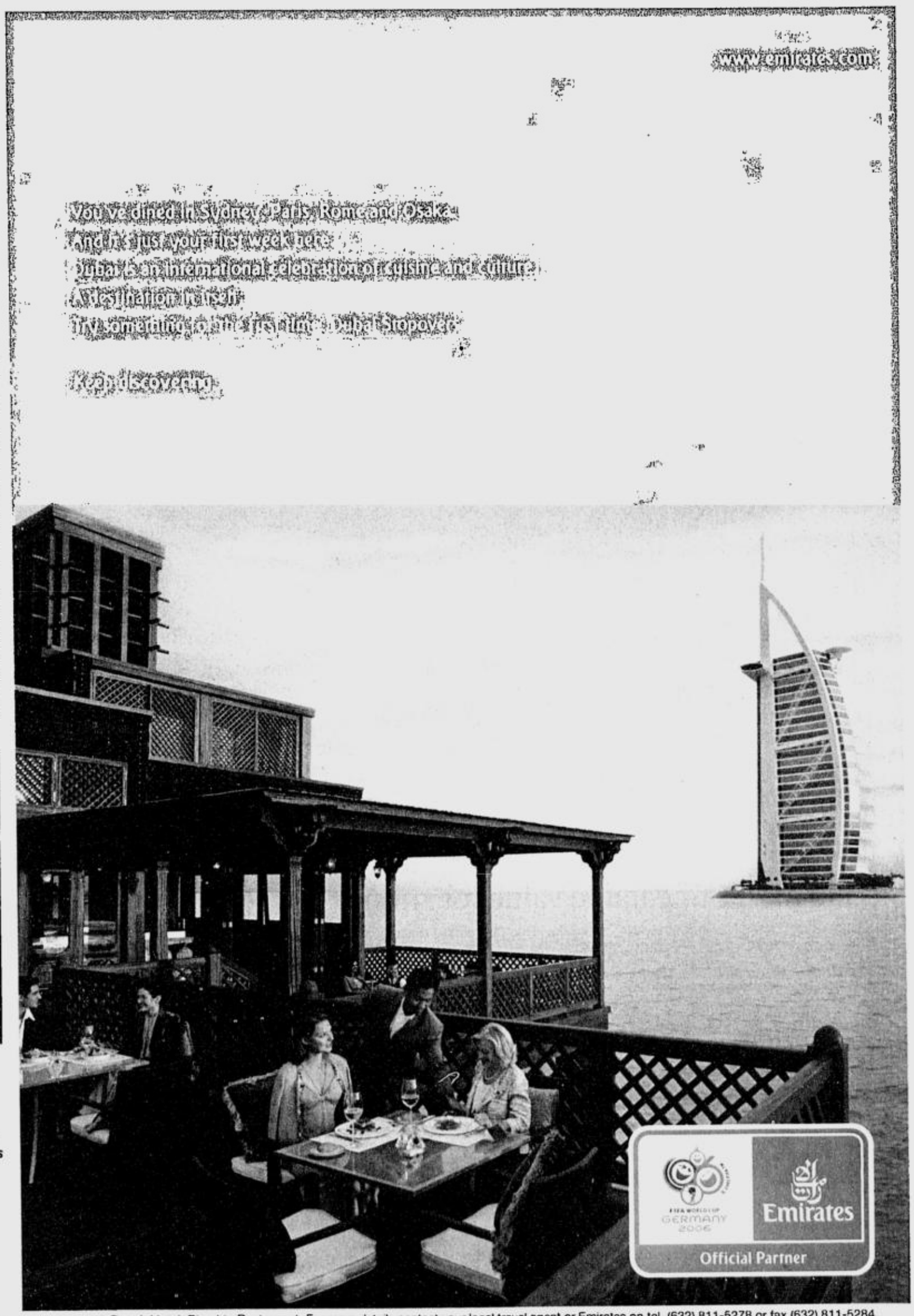
Some 75 teachers and 1,700 schoolchildren are expected to benefit from the program.

As the partnership also calls for the promotion of health and sanitation and environmental protection among the three elementary schools, a team of doctors and dentists provided health and dental services to the schoolchildren during the turnover of the computer equipment and facilities. PSPI Community Relations volunteers distributed free medicines while lectures on environmental safety, emergency response and first aid were conducted.

"We are happy to share our blessings with the communities where we live and operate. We are just too glad to share not only computers and financial support but, more importantly, the knowledge and time of our employee-volunteers in this program as well," Brader said.



BELLE CORP. WINS AWARD. Belle Corp., one of the leading companies engaged in leisure property development in the Philippines, was chosen as the "Best in Leisure Property Development" at the 23rd edition of the National Consumers and People's Choice Awards. Belle Corp., which started leisure property development operations in 1992, is among the pioneers in club shares market and club lifestyle development and is responsible for developing the Tagaytay Highlands, Midlands and Greenlands properties. The National Consumers Awards gives tribute to outstanding consumer products and Filipino achievers. Tagaytay Highlands, an exclusive membership recreation and residential golf community which opened in 1994, signaled the advent of the club lifestyle development among Filipinos. Photo shows NCQA project chair Jonathan Navea, NCQA PRO Eric Javier, awards chair Justice Eugenio Liborio, Tagaytay Highlands VP for marketing Belinda Lim Herrera, AVP for sales Cristina Fernandez and NCQA executive chair Justo Ortiz.



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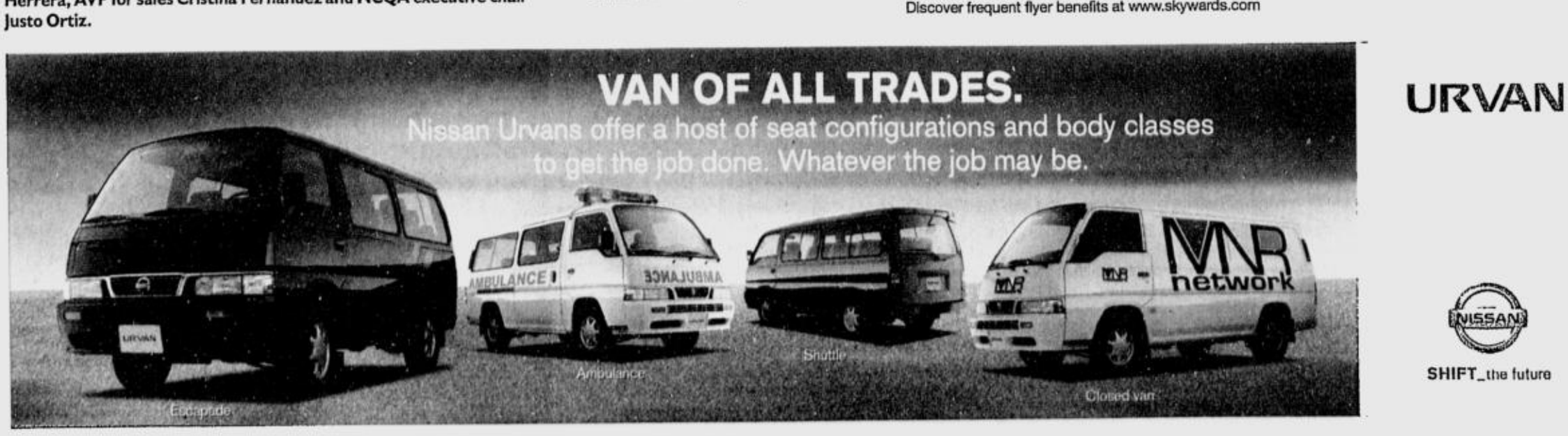

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005

People, Events & Products

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Editor Aries Espinosa

Search for 5 Outstanding Nutrition and Health Programs

NESTLÉ PHILIPPINES INC RECENTLY launched The Search for the Five Outstanding Nutrition and Health Programs in the Philippines, a nationwide contest that aims to give recognition to exceptional health programs in the country.

Introduced during the 1st Health and Nutrition Summit held at the Westin Philippine Plaza and in four other cities nationwide, the search is part of "Let's Talk Wellness with Nestlé," an advocacy effort of Nestlé Philippines to build awareness of current knowledge and lifestyle practices promoting wellness, the condition of good physical and mental health especially when maintained by proper diet, exercise and habits.

The competition aims to encourage and give recognition to dedicated individuals and institutions whose nutrition and health programs are deemed worthy of emulation and have effectively addressed the pressing "wellness" issues in their respective localities. It is in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health, which has been endorsed by member states, given that some 60 percent of all deaths worldwide are attributed to non-communicable diseases, with 66 percent of such deaths occurring in developing countries.

All health and nutrition programs initiated and managed by local government units (LGUs) and health organizations are qualified to win provided that they are in existence for at least one year at the time of application and that they have shown significant results on the wellness of the community or a certain group of people. Health and nutrition areas covered by the contest include healthy diet campaigns, fitness programs, nutrition education effectiveness and lifestyle modifying programs. Criteria for judging include effectiveness, project impact, people participation, sustainability and responsiveness to health and wellness concerns. The winning programs will each be awarded a prize of Php 100,000 at recognition ceremonies in early 2006.

For more information, get in touch with Zenaida F. Velasco of the Nutrition and Emotional Wellness Center located at Unit 5D2 Pearl Plaza Bldg., Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City with telefax no. 637-6521, telephone no. 700-9558, cell phone no. 0917-8278505 and email zfv@yahoo.com.

BPI GIVES DONATION TO CHILDREN'S HOUR

Employees of the Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) pooled together their resources to offer their donation to Children's Hour, a fund-raising organization devoted especially to giving hope to underprivileged children. The turn over of the accumulated funds was made in the South Forbes room of the Hotel Intercontinental, Makati City by president for human resources Dina Orosa. In the same event, BPI SVP Imelda Trillo also turned over a check donation made by BPI Foundation Inc. In photo are (from left): Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, trustee, Children's Hour; Ambassador Bienvenido Tan Jr., chair, Children's Hour; VP Dina Orosa; Ambassador Narcisa Escaler, chair, resource mobilization committee; and Pedro Roxas, trustee, Children's Hour.

SHELL SENDS SERVICE STATION EMPLOYEES TO LA SALLE NIGHT SCHOOL

Through the partnership of Pilipinas Shell and La Salle Green Hills Adult Night School Foundation (LSGH-ANHS), 50 service station employees from different Shell service stations in Metro Manila will undergo a 6-month training on basic computer and auto gas mechanic course as part of the Shell 'Gas Mo, Bukas Ko' program. Pilipinas Shell donated P1 million to LSGH-ANHS to carry out a skills training program for working adults enrolled in the ANHS program. The training commenced on Sept. 26, 2005 and will run until March 16, 2006. Graduates will earn a TESDA/PAASCU accredited certificate during the commencement exercises to be held on March 17, 2006 at La Salle Green Hills. Shown are (seated, from left) Shell Dealer Lourdes Martinez, Association of Pilipinas Shell Dealers Inc (Apsdi) president Charrie Antonio, La Salle Green Hills (LSGH) development and public relations office director Pearl Ortega, LSGH-ANHS principal Teresita Gorayeb, Shell Gate Service Station forecourt attendant Jonathan Permejo, CJ Fernandez Service Station manager Jose Garibay, (standing, from left) Pilipinas Shell general manager for external affairs Roberto Kanapi, retail credits and administration assistant Anna Liza Simbol, Shell Gate Service Station forecourt attendant Richard Tormes, SciP country chair Edgar Chua, La Salle Green Hills president Bro. Oca, Pilipinas Shell general manager for retail Sammy de Guzman, Shell Gate Station office assistant Agnes San Juan, and Pilipinas Shell regional manager-Metro Manila Lawrence Yam during the MoA signing held at the President's Office in La Salle Green Hills.

HOM celebrates 4th year with VIP Day

HANDS ON MANILA FOUNDATION INC (HOM), A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION engaged in volunteer management, celebrates its fourth anniversary this year with a Volunteer In Person (VIP) Day on Oct. 21, 6 to 9 p.m. at The Loft, Rockwell Center. Dubbed "Come HOM and Celebrate Volunteerism," the event will recognize the many unsung heroes who have shown their commitment and dedication to various social causes, ranging from street children to the elderly, to livelihood programs and environmental conservation. Five HOM Outstanding Volunteer Awards and five HSBC Faces of Volunteerism Awards will be given out, each one receiving P20,000 in prize money which will go to a volunteer project of the winner's choice. The homecoming also doubles as a thanksgiving party, with feature performances by children from partner organizations Bahay Maria, Pangarap Foundation and Childhope Asia Philippines, plus guest bands Steady Movin' Beat and Lovecore. For more information, please call 843-7044 or 843-5231.

HANDY POWERADE BOTTLE LAUNCHED AT MINI STOP

Good news to all Powerade drinkers. You favorite thirst quencher now comes in a more convenient package, making it the perfect companion for people like you who are always on the go. The new handy, re-sealable 500 ml Powerade bottle was launched recently with Powerade executives signing the agreement with their counterparts from Mini Stop. Shown in picture (from left): Mini Stop category manager Elaine Pacete, SMC Centralized Key Accounts Group (CKAG) customer development officer Pia Dela Rosa, Mini Stop category manager Clarise Rubias and SMC CKAG customer development officer Gretchen Betita.

PHIDOFFA HOLDS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Officers of Phidoffa - Philippine Domestic Freight Forwarders Association Inc held their General Membership Meeting last Sept. 26 at Conrads Restaurant to discuss the current issues of Fuel Crisis and the E-VAT Law. Shown are (standing from left): George Lim of Access Freight, Clemence Rosales of Gaffco, Bernadine Genova representing Joseph Villanueva of Pac-Atlantic, Tony Feliciano of Germalin Enterprise and president of Phidoffa, Ding Achacoso of Ephesus Cargo, Efren Zoleta Jr. of Argo International and Edsel Sobrecary, Phidoffa secretariat. Other officers not in the picture: Ana Patino of WWW Express, Joseph Villanueva of Pac-Atlantic, Jun Sevilla of Airlift Asia, and Ferdie Camañag of Air2100.

ProductFILES

New Auldey Race-Tin Gen-3

AULDEY, THE BRAND TRUSTED for its quality racing car technology, has once again gone beyond expectations by releasing a highly-calibrated generation of racing cars. Now, with the installment of stylish muffler and intercooler, Race-Tin Gen-3 cars are sure to stand out in any racing challenge. Over 30 designs and colors are lined up to fuel the passion of any racing car enthusiast. Auldey Gen-3 has power-packed technology that is sure to send thrills down your spine as you blaze down the fast track. Equipped with high performance shock absorbers, the Gen-3 will rip down the speedway with incredible flexibility in getting around toughest curves. Featuring a new steering system with a separate motor exclusively for turning, the gen-3 is more maneuverable and more responsive than ever; hugging those sharp curves and tough turns like nothing you've ever seen. Professionally designed tires provide excellent traction, while still giving room for a fortifying powerslide. Stability is not compromised since Gen-3 racing cars are equipped with a more compact chassis, resulting in a gravitational road grip and faster racing speed. You can even fully tune your car by getting motor upgrades and grabbing enhancement accessories at leading toy shops. Challenge up to 3 of your friends down drag strip and pit your wits and wheels against each other while you show off your unique racing cars. With Auldey Race-Tin Gen-3, your dream car is in your control. Watch our for Auldey's TV launching and see the action live on your screen. Visit www.auldey.com for more details and updates, or email auldeygen3@yahoo.com For your comments and inquiries.

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WELLA BELLADY DECORÉ BAGS BEST HAIR-COLOR HOME KIT

Wella Bellady Decoré was awarded 'Best Hair-Color Home Kit' in the annual National Shoppers' Choice Awards, now on its 5th year of rewarding outstanding companies and brands in the Philippines. Based on a nation-wide survey of 100,000 respondents, Wella Bellady Decoré was cited for product quality, company reputation, brand recognition, and consumer services. Bellady Decoré by Wella is exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corp. Wella is owned by Procter and Gamble.

Suzuki APV: Unbeatable value for money

WITH DIFFICULT TIMES COMES THE INevitable need for some belt-tightening. Everyone learns to forgo unnecessary purchases, and a brand-new car certainly tops the list. The trick these days is acquiring a vehicle that has the features and carrying capacity of a wagon or van but with the price tag of a subcompact sedan. Any vehicle that offers these bests of both worlds will definitely be a hit among budget-conscious Filipino buyers.

Suzuki Philippines has launched such a vehicle, and it is aptly called the APV (All Purpose Vehicle). This stylish, compact family wagon measures just 4,155 millimeters in length, 1,655 mm in width and 1,855 mm in height, yet boasts a spacious passenger cabin that easily accommodates eight passengers. The really good news is that it is priced about the same as a subcompact car. Imagine owning a vehicle that is able to transport the whole family (including everyone's favorite stuff) for a tab that's even lower than that of a small five-seater sedan.

Owning a Suzuki APV is like having a passenger car and a family van in your garage. Or like enjoying the benefits of two vehicle types and paying for the price of one. The APV--with its modern-looking exterior that features a distinct snub nose, prominent fender flares, and voluptuous curves--will not look out of place on the parking lot of a trendy bar.

And then there's the question of operational cost. The financial impact of any vehicle doesn't stop with the purchase. The more tangible expenditure has to do with fuel, which is why one of the chief selling points of a vehicle is its engine--whether it is fuel-efficient or gas-guzzling. This should not be a problem with the APV, which offers a 1.6-liter 16-valve inline-four gasoline engine.

Finally, there is the issue of maintenance. The APV, being a global strategy model for Suzuki that is specifically aimed at Asian markets, has been designed and built with durability as the paramount priority. Knowing how bad some roads can be in countries like the Philippines, Suzuki has equipped the APV with a proven and dependable suspension layout consisting of MacPherson struts in front and rigid axle and leaf springs at the back.

RCSI CERTIFIED BY NMIS

Reitoh Cold Storage Inc (RCSI) was recently certified as GOP/SSOP (Good Operating Practices/Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures) compliant by the Department of Agriculture - National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) Central Office. Shown receiving the official accreditation certificate (center) is Shigeshi Takushima, president RCSI, from NMIS OIC-executive director Dra. Minda S. Manantan. Also in the picture (from left) are Paul W. Co, RCSI quality control manager; NMIS auditor Dr. Orly Ongsotto; NMIS head auditor Dra. Claire M. Sanckal; and NMIS auditor Dr. Magdiwang Cruz.

QUEZON CITY ACADEMY GIVES TESTIMONIAL LUNCHEON TO 24 FRESHMEN

Quezon City Academy, in celebration of the 98th birth anniversary of the late president Esperanza P. Alvendia, gave a testimonial luncheon to 24 freshmen who were either passers of the Justice Alvendia tests and who were valedictorians or salutatorians in the grade schools. The 24, who were each accompanied by a parent, were: Ma. Jessica Apalin, Alyssa Mae Bernasol, Josephine Arielle Barcena, John Daryl Cabiles, Kristine V. Capili, Dahlyn Mae Caracas, Milaida Leda Dagulo, Jennifer C. De Vera, John Scott J. Fazon, Arite R. Floro, Mharistiane P. Leygo, Ralph E. Lopez, Katherine Yvette Magsalin, Rujiely Betty Manuel, Micelle D. Mangayan, Natasha Kate Mendoza, Kristopher Xavier Muscat, Paul Ryan Ocampo, Kristine A. Rabano, Mohammed O. Rasid, Erica Hazel Regato, Maufred Salandanan, Cristeta D. Tablos, and Noime B. Villacarlos. The 24 honorees were inducted into the Green Laurel society of QCA and the Pabinhian association composed of academic scholars in QCA. Meanwhile, three QCA alumni who graduated with honors in college, namely, Mark Ian Puno, accounting, magna cum laude; and Joan Leonora B. Mora, and Joseph Angelo R. Sevilla, both PNU cum laudes, received their individual plaques of recognition from the school as Golden Laurels.

Clips

Kids at Festival Supermall

OCTOBER IS FOR KIDS AT FESTIVAL SUPERMALL. A brain boosting activity at the malls' Carousel Court is ongoing until Oct. 15. "Brains at Work" features a toy and tales exhibit that will introduce eager learners to the newest books, learning tools, recreational implements and educational toys. For fashion freaks, watch out for the What Girls are Lovin! Holiday Mall Tour on Oct. 16 and the Barbie Fashion Fever Fab 4 grand finals on Oct. 15. A kid's badminton competition also awaits the more athletic children on Oct. 16. Hear ye, wannabe scientists. You can become skilled in the wonderful world of science as the Mad Science Show teaches you how to enjoy doing experiments through Fire and Ice and Up, Up and Away from Oct. 22 to 23. Likewise, there will be a "Petstival Festival", a pet food and accessories fair from Oct. 23 to 30 and a Fur and Feathers Show on Oct. 30. This is open to all owners of dogs and cats. Contestants should come in fashionable costumes. On Oct. 31, Festival Mall brings to the public the Super Halloween "Flights of Fantasy" contest. This is open from kids, ages 3 to 10. For inquiries, call 850-3514. Festival Supermall is located at the Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa.

Segafredo's 'High on Coffee'

AFTER MONTHS OF INTENSE PREPARATION, Segafredo is now proud to unveil "High on Coffee" to customers at Greenbelt 2, Ayala Center, Makati beginning Oct. 10, 2 to 5 p.m. The High on Coffee set consists of a 2-tiered platter containing savory canapés and sweets, and is served with espresso Americano or a pot of tea for two. Good for two, this special serves as the perfect opportunity to invite a friend to sit down for coffee and a long chat. The "High on Coffee" Special is available at the reasonable price of P295++.

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LIST OF ACQUIRED ASSETS FOR SALE

	Location	Description	Selling Price
1	Lot 7 Blk 22 K-4 St., Karangalan Village Bo. of Nakabangan, Cainta, Rizal	2-storey concrete residential bldg. with a total floor area of 86sq.m. Lot area is 64.81 sq.m.	1,104,000.00
2	3 Int Gen Luna St., Ususan, Taguig, MM	2 structure bungalow type concrete residential bldg. with a total floor area of 71 sq.m. Lot area is 200 sq.m. less perpetual right of way 23.26 sq.m. total lot area is 176.74 sq.m.	1,194,000.00
3	Lot 5-D Int. Kentucky St., Bo. Bambang, Taguig, MM	3 door apartment type and 1 concrete residential bldg. with a total floor area of 162.80 sq.m. Lot area is 190.50 sq.m.	1,680,000.00
4	22 Ilocos Norte St., R. Magsaysay, QC	2 storey concrete residential bldg. with a total floor area of 318 sq.m.; Lot area is 237sq.m.	4,000,000.00
5	718 J.P. Rizal St., Concepcion, Marikina	1 - storey commercial bldg. with a total floor area of 119 sq.m. Lot area is 119 sq.m.	3,194,000.00
6	598 Narra St., Rodriguez, Rizal	bungalow type semi-concrete residential bldg. with basement with a total floor area of 79.92 sq.m. Lot area is 151 sq.m.	552,000.00
7	Lot 5 Blk 3 Orchid St., Tres Hermanas Subd., Mayamot, Antipolo, Rizal	vacant lot with an area of 158sq.m., without squatters, below street level	663,600.00
8	Lot 28 Blk 8 Ares Drive, Grand Valley Subd., Phase II, M. Parang, Angono, Rizal	vacant lot with an area of 200sq.m., without squatters, street level	720,000.00
9	Lot 5-O-7 Guinayang, San Mateo, Rizal	erected on subject lot are 1 bungalow type concrete residential bldg. 2 units timber framed residential bldg. Lot area is 491sq.m.	750,000.00
10	Sto. Toriblo, Lipa City, Batangas	vacant lot w/fruit bearing trees , 4 lots 4 TCTs with a total area of 3.5 hec., regular shape and all lots with street frontage	7,000,000.00

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late JOSE MARINO OLONDRIZ was extrajudicially settled partially by the heirs as per Doc. No. 418 Page 85 Book No. XXI Series of 2005. Before Notary Public Eduardo E. Dela Cruz of Makati City
PDI--Oct. 9, 16, 23, 2005

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Cresencia Ignacio Santos who died on June 27, 2005 has been extra judicially settled by her heirs in an extra judicial settlement executed before Porfirio M. Bautista of Paranaque City on September 23, 2005 and entered in his Notarial Register as Doc# 172, Page# 35, Book # I. Series of 2005.
(PDI-Oct.1. 8 & 16, 2005

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- Male / Female; at least 23 years old with at least 1 year experience in graphic design
- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's / College Degree in Fine Arts Major in Advertising or equivalent
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ERRATUM

In the notice of **Housing and Land Use Regularity Board (HLURB)** published on this paper on October 14, 2005, the word ***capacity*** on the second paragraph should be ***capability***. It should have read " desires to broaden the ***capability*** of housing developers to comply with the said requirement." Furthermore, the publication date should have read Pdi-October 14, 2005 and not as published.

Our apologies.

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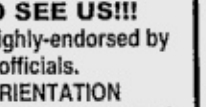

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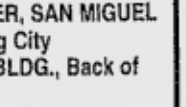

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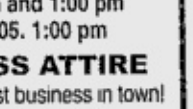

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Republika ng Pilipinas
Republic of the Philippines
Kagawaran ng Tanggulang Pambansa
Department of National Defense

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
(DND PROPER Procurement of Goods and Services)

I. The Department of National Defense (DND Proper), through the DND Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/ manufacturers/distributors/contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following projects:

Name of Project	Description	Approved Buget for Contract
Supply & Delivery of:		
A. Office Supplies	Assorted office supplies for OSND	443,989.28
B. Computer Supplies	Assorted computer supplies for OSND	423,058.50
C. Other Supplies	Loyalty ring for OSND personnel	485,100.00
D. Printing & Binding	Different printing & binding requirement for OSND	972,400.00
E. ICT Spare Parts	Assorted ICT Spare Parts for OSND	960,120.00
F. Construction Supplies	Assorted construction supplies for OSND	335,547.19
G. Vehicle Spare Parts	Assorted vehicle spareparts for OSND	756,706.87
H. Aircon Supplies	Assorted aircon supplies for OSND	259,533.00
I. Building & Maintenance/Other Structure Mainenance	Repair & maintenance of OSND Set-up Transformer for deepwell	150,000.00
J. Repair of Equipment	Repair of video reversing screen	75,000.00
	TOTAL	4,861,454.84

II. The complete schedule of activities is as follows

Activities	Venue	Schedule	Time
a. Issuance of Bid Documents		Starting : October 23 to 6 November 2005	
b. Pre-Bid Conference	Old DND Conf. Rm.	October 27, 2005	
c. Deadline for submission Opening of Bids	Old DND Conf. Rm.	Projects A & B – November 7, 2005	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
		Projects C & D – November 8, 2005	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
		Projects E & F – November 9, 2005	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
		Projects G & H – November 10, 2005	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
		Projects I & J – November 11, 2005	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
d. Bid Evaluation		November 12-18, 2005	
e. Post-Qualification		November 19-25, 2005	
f. Issuance of Notice of Award		November 26 to December 2, 2005	

III. Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount as indicated below to the DND-BAC Secretariat 1st Floor Left wing DND Building, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Tel. No. Trunkline 9116001 Local 8414.

PROJECT	COST OF BIDDING DOCUMENTS
Project A to C	PhP 500.00
Project D	Php 1,000.00
Project E	PhP 900.00
Project F	PhP 300.00
Project G	PhP 800.00
Project H	PhP 200.00
Project I	Php 100.00

IV. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted. All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

V. To facilitate eligibility checking, manufacturers and/or suppliers who wish to participate in the public bidding may apply for registration with the DND BAC Secretariat at least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled submission and opening of bids for the procurement projects they wish to participate in pursuant to DND BAC Cir-01-2005.

VI. The OSND assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

VII. The OSND reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any formalityand award the Contract to the bidder whose proposal is the most advantageous to the government as evaluated by the DND Bids and Awards Committee (DND-BAC).

VIII. The invitation is also posted in the DBM Procurement Service website at www.procurementservice.org., and the DND website, in accordance with the IRR-A of R.A. 9184. Further, it shall also be posted at conspicuous places in the premises of the Department of National Defense (DND).

(Sgd.) UNDERSECRETARY JOSE F. SANTOS
Chairman, DND-BAC

(PDI – October 16 & 23, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Metro Manila Development Authority
PASIG RIVER REHABILITATION COMMISSION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Project : Pasig River Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Sector Development Program (PAREMAR)
Loan No. : Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan No. 1746-PHI

Description of Works:
Construction and Development of a Community/Linear Park and Revetment Wall along BASECO Compound in Manila City

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the ADB toward the cost of PAREMAR and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan, together with the GOP counterpart funds, to payments under the Contract for BASECO URA Project (Community/Linear Park cum Revetment Wall) (Contract No. URA-MLA-01).
2. The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) as the executing agency now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the contract package:

Contract Package : Construction and Development of a Community/Linear Park and Revetment Wall
Contract No. : URA-MLA-01
Area : 17,418.79 sq.m.
Location : BASECO Compound, Manila City
Contract Duration : 365 calendar days
Project Description : Construction and development of a Community/Linear Park and Revetment Wall which includes the following items of work; Steel Sheet Piling Works, Pile Cap, Gen. Requirements, Paving, Surfacing and Softscape

3. Interested Bidders shall secure the Bid Documents and submit bids as follows:

Activity	Date	Time	Venue	Remarks
Securing of (a) Eligibility Checklist or (b) submission of Letter of Intent and purchase of complete set of Bid Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 15,000.00	Oct. 21-28, 2005	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	PRRC, 2F, MWSS Eng'g Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105	Eligibility checklist is free of charge
Securing of additional eligibility information (if any) and inspection of Bidding Documents	Oct. 21-28, 2005	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		For those who secured only the Eligibility Checklist
a. Site Inspection	Nov. 8, 2005	10:00 AM	BASECO Compound, Manila City	
b. Pre-Bid Conference	Nov. 8, 2005	1:00 PM	Flagship Projects Management Office Museo ng Maynila, T.M. Kalaw cor. Roxas Blvd., Manila City	Right after Site Inspection
Deadline for Submission of Bids	Nov. 29, 2005	10:00 AM	PRRC (same address)	Late bids (bids submitted after 10 AM) shall not be accepted
Opening of Bids	Nov. 29, 2005	10:30 AM		Bids shall be opened in the presence of the bidder

4. The City of Manila shall be the implementing agency of the Contract.
5. Bidding (Eligibility Check/Prequalification, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract) shall be conducted on the basis of local competitive bidding among interested Bidders from ADB eligible source countries as defined under the *"Guidelines for Procurement by the Asian Development Bank and its Borrowers"* pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 9184 otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," to the extent it is consistent with Asian Development Bank's procurement procedures.
6. PRRC-IABAC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at anytime prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) **Bingle H. B. Gutierrez**
Executive Director

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2F, MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105
Tel. Nos. 433-3444 and 433-3446
Email Address: prrc@tri-isys.com
Fax No. 926-6444

(PDI - Oct. 16 & 23, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
City Government of Zamboanga
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
City Hall, Zamboanga City
Tel. No. (062) 992-7763

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

REF. No. CL-05-10-0371

The *City Government of Zamboanga*, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers / manufacturers / distributors / contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Contract	Location/Office	Brief Description	Approved Budget for the Contract	Contract Duration / P.R. No.	Delivery Period
1. Job-Order: L/M Thermoplastic Markings	CEO	Thermoplastic Markings	2,999,812.33	100-05-09-2191	40wd
2. Fuel products	CHO CPSO CHO-Paregas Mem. SP CGSO CEO AGRI CEO CTO SP CMO CMO CEO SP AGRI SP	Gasoline & Diesel	309,450.00 650,715.00 52,500.00 74,308.95 310,551.30 174,781.00 158,938.00 491,674.00 79,387.50 74,310.00 157,400.00 120,096.00 67,452.00 61,027.33 66,271.50 74,274.84 2,933,137.45	100-05-09-1903 100-05-08-1859 100-05-09-2168 100-05-09-2147 100-05-09-1992 100-05-09-1987 100-05-09-2121 100-05-09-2198 100-05-09-2217 100-05-09-2216 100-05-10-2344 100-05-10-2345 100-05-10-2346 100-05-10-2341 100-05-09-2041 100-05-09-2050	20wd
3. Construction and Heavy Equipment Spare Parts	CGSO-STOCKS	Battery, Bearing, Cable etc...	311,370.00 355,600.00 149,160.00 201,000.00 1,017,130.00	100-05-10-2396 100-05-10-2395 100-05-10-2394 100-05-10-2397	15wd
4. Drugs and Medicines	CGSO-STOCKS	Oral Rehydration Salt, Amoxicillin etc...	70,000.00 1,522,200.00 205,280.00 720,600.00 103,000.00 87,500.00 471,100.00 135,170.00 54,000.00 174,400.00 211,500.00 407,600.00 204,400.00 521,300.00 4,886,050.00	100-05-09-1931 100-05-10-2320 100-05-10-2304 100-05-10-2315 100-05-10-2307 100-05-10-2311 100-05-10-2314 100-05-10-2308 100-05-10-2310 100-05-10-2305 100-05-10-2319 100-05-10-2318 100-05-10-2317 100-05-10-2315	15wd

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The schedule of BAC activities are as follows:

BAC Activities	*Schedule*
1 Issuance of Bid Documents	October 13-20, 2005
2 Pre-bid Conference will be conducted at City Budget Office, City Hall Zamboanga City	October 14, 2005
3 Opening of Bids	October 27, 2005
4 Bid Evaluation	October 27, 2005
5 Post-qualification	October 28, 2005
6 Notice of Award	November 3, 2005

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of P1,000.00 item nos. 1 & 2; P500.00 item no. 3 & P 1,400.00 item no. 4 to the City Treasurer.

The City Government of Zamboanga assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

Approved by:

(Sgd.) VIRGINIA SAN AGUSTIN GARA
BAC Chairman

(PDI - Oct. 16 & 22, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Metro Manila Development Authority
PASIG RIVER REHABILITATION COMMISSION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Project : Pasig River Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Sector Development Program (PAREMAR)
Loan No. : Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan No. 1746-PHI

Description of Works:
Construction and Development of Community Facilities (Health Center, Multi-Purpose Hall, Market and High School Building) for Sunny Brooke and Country Meadow relocation sites located in Bgy. San Francisco, Gen. Trias, Cavite.

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the ADB toward the cost of PAREMAR and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan, together with the GOP counterpart funds, to payments under the Contract for Community Facilities w/ site development (Contract Nos. EPA-RAP-CF18 to CF20)
2. The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) as the executing agency now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the following contract package:

Contract Package	Contract No.	Area (sq.m.)	Location	Contract Duration	Project Description
Package 1: Site Development and Construction of Health Center and Multi-Purpose Hall (Sunny Brooke 1)	EPA-RAP-CF18	Floor Area = 761 Land Area = 1448	Sunny Brooke and Country Meadow Subd., Bgy. San Francisco, Gen. Trias, Cavite	180 c.d.	Construction and development of Community Facilities which includes the following items of work: construction of temporary facilities; earthworks; civil works; steel works; architectural works, tinsmitry; sanitary/plumbing works, site development and electrical works
Package 2: Site Development and Construction of Health Center and Multi-Purpose Hall (Sunny Brooke 2)	EPA-RAP-CF19	Floor Area = 671 Land Area = 1296		180 c.d.	
Package 3: Site Development and Construction of Health Center and Multi-Purpose Hall (Country Meadow)	EPA-RAP-CF20	Floor Area = 668 Land Area = 1,088		180 c.d.	

3. Interested Bidders shall secure the Bid Documents and submit bids as follows:

Activity	Date	Time	Venue	Remarks
Securing of (a) Eligibility Checklist or (b) submission of Letter of Intent and purchase of complete set of Bid Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 12,500.00	Oct. 24-Nov. 7, 2005	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	PRRC, 2F, MWSS, Eng'g Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105	Eligibility checklist is free of charge
Securing of additional eligibility information (if any) and inspection of Bidding Documents	Oct. 24-Nov. 7, 2005	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		For those who secured only the Eligibility Checklist
Pre-Bid Conference	Nov. 10, 2005	8:00 AM	Gen. Trias, Municipal Hall	
Site Inspection	Nov. 10, 2005	2:00 PM	Sunny Brooke and Country Meadow Subd., Bgy. San Francisco, Gen. Trias, Cavite	
Deadline for Submission of Bids	Nov. 22, 2005	10:00 AM	PRRC, 2F, MWSS, Eng'g. Bldg. Katipunan Rd., Old Balara, Quezon City 1105	Late bids shall not be accepted
Opening of Bids	Nov. 22, 2005	10:30 AM		Bids shall be opened in the presence of the bidders

4. LGU-Gen. Trias shall be the implementing agency of the Contract.
5. Bidding (Eligibility Check/Prequalification, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract) shall be conducted on the basis of local competitive bidding among interested Bidders from ADB eligible source countries as defined under the *"Guidelines for Procurement by the Asian Development Bank and its Borrowers"* pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 9184 otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," to the extent it is consistent with Asian Development Bank's procurement procedures.
6. PRRC-IABAC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at anytime prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) **Bingle H. B. Gutierrez**
Executive Director, PRRC

(Sgd.) **Luis A. Ferrer IV**
Municipal Mayor, Gen. Trias, Cavite

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2F, MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105
Tel. Nos. 433-3444 and 433-3446
Email Address: prrc@tri-isys.com
Fax No. 926-6444

(PDI - Oct. 16 & 23, 2005)

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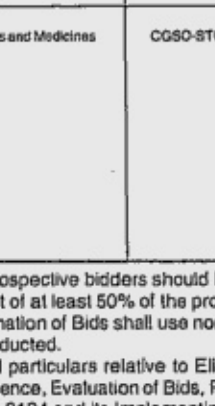
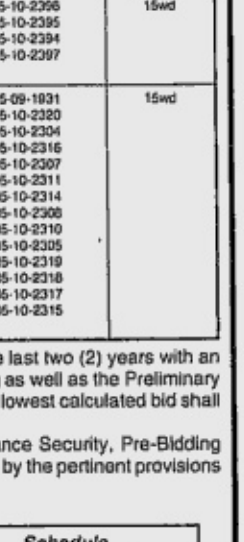


MS. MARGARITA S. PEREZ whose picture appears herein is no longer connected in any manner with **CREATIVE SKIN AND SPA PRODUCTS** effective September 15, 2005. Any transaction entered into by MS PEREZ after said date shall not be honored by the company.

(PDI-Oct. 16 ,2005)



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(Boeing 747 - 400 PAL Pilot)
Who joined his Creator on October 16, 2003

Today, we mark his *SECOND YEAR* of birth and transition to God's eternal paradise. He may be physically absent in our so-called reality but we completely feel his existence within our soul. The assurance that he is always with us in completely evident whenever we feel the inner peace embracing our family even during tough times.

His loving wife, **Sonia** and his children: **Dr. Jack Gilbert**, **Shane**, **Mark Gregory** and **Monique**, **John Richard** and **Albert Constantine**; grandchildren: **Siegfrid St. Llyr**, **Pierce Schonburgh Sage**, **Gregory Ray**, **Gerald** and **Goddfrey** consider this day a very special one for all of us and have scheduled a series of masses to different churches to celebrate his birth to heaven.

Below is the list of churches where mass offerings to our beloved daddy will be held:

* **St. Jerome Emiliani and Sta. Susana Parish Church** ..... 6:30 a.m.
  Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City
* **San Beda College Alabang** ..... 7:45 a.m.
  Alabang Hills Village, Alabang
* **Lady Of The Abandoned Church** ..... 7:30 a.m.
  Muntinlupa City
* **Mary Mother Of God Parochial Church** ..... 6:30 a.m.
  Bayanan, Muntinlupa City
* **Sanctuario de San Antonio Parish Church** ..... 6:30 a.m.
  Forbes Park, Makati City
* **Sto. Niño de Paz Community Church** ..... 7:15 a.m.
  Greenbelt Park, Makati City
* **San Jose Village Chapel** ..... 9:00 a.m.
  Alabang, Muntinlupa City
* **Mother of Perpetual Help** ..... 6:30 a.m.
  Baclaran, Parañaque City

"We love you so much and we miss you dearly, Daddy!"

First came *Memories* the first ever supplement in the country dedicated to the Death Care Industry

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 20
The Power of Knowing

In cooperation with

bring forth

City Government of Manila

Memories EXPO

October 25 - 26, 2005
Bonifacio Shrine (beside Manila City Hall)

An exhibit especially organized to bring together products and services relating to Death Care and more

We are inviting companies from the following establishments to join us in this worthwhile endeavor:

- **Funeral Parlors**
- **Columbariums**
- **Pre-need Plans**
- **Memorial Parks**
- **Suppliers of Candles, Coffins, Tombstones, Urns**
- **Florists**
- **Catering**
- **Grief Counseling**
- **NGO's**

This event is in lieu with the publication of **Memories 2** on October 23, 2005 (deadline of material: October 17, 2005).

Should you have questions regarding the Expo and Supplement, please call: **Philippine Daily Inquirer** - Ms. Dhel Mendoza at 912-9008 to 10 / 421-0343 or email agarcia@inquirer.com.ph.

NEMESIA (INES) BILAOEN-DOMINGO

January 21, 1905 –September 28, 2005

"God saw she was getting tired
And a cure was not to be
So he put his arm around her
And whispered, "Come with me"

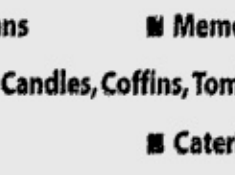
A golden heart stopped beating
Hardworking hands put to rest
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best."

We thank all our relatives and friends who offered their prayers, sympathies and condolences for the eternal repose of our beloved mother, the late Nemesia (Ines) Bilaoen-Domingo of Salcedo, Ilocos Sur; Malabon, Rizal; and Baguio City who passed away peacefully on her 101st year.

The children and their families:
Alicia Domingo-Carlos,
Banjamin B. Domingo,
Carmen Domingo-Kirk,
Delia Domingo-Albert
and **Evelyn Domingo-Barker**

SANDBLASTED GRANITE

TOMB MARKERS
(LAPIDA)



PRIT ENTERPRISES INC.
1120 J.P. RIZAL ST., GUADALUPE VIEJO, MAKATI CITY
TEL # 895-8401*895-0292*890-3407*895-9775 FAX# (632) 890-3408
EMAIL: prit@skyinet.net

Message of Thanks
We, the family and relatives of the late

JUDGE LUIS J. ARRANZ

who joined his Creator on September 25, 2005

wish to convey their heartfelt gratitude to all those who paid their last respect and grieved with them, offered masses and prayers, sent flowers, messages of sympathy, kept vigil, were present at the necrological services, novena masses, funeral rites and who, in generous ways gave them comfort at the time of their great loss and sorrow.

In Loving Memory
Of

FELISA SALVOSA TORRES

On the 8th Death Anniversary
Who passed away on October 16, 1997

We, the family request relatives, friends, And pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

"Let the words of my mouth meet your Favor, keep the thoughts of my heart before you, Lord, my rock, my redeemer..."

Psalm 2 : 15

Florentino D. Santos

OF SSS VILLAGE, MARIKINA CITY

Peacefully joined his Creator on October 15, 2005 at the age of 76.

His bereaved wife **Corazon Santos**; children **Nick, Lina, Tony, Jojo, Nesty, Rey, Manuel, Cathy, Andoy** and **Cecil.**

His body lies in state at the Marian Memorial Chapels, Marcos Highway, Antipolo City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, October 18, 2005 Heaven's Gate Memorial Park I, Antipolo City at 10:00 a.m. after the 8:30 a.m. Mass at the Marian Memorial Chapels, Inc.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
- Copy of Death Certificate;
- Any identification document (I.D.)

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Republic of the Philippines
National Transmission Corporation
South Luzon Operations and Maintenance

Trans Co

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

Conversion of Warehouse to Multi-Purpose Hall of South Luzon Operations & Maintenance

An existing old warehouse within the South Luzon Operations & Maintenance compound is proposed for conversion into an eight hundred sq.m. (800 sq.m.) concrete & steel structured multi-purpose hall for use of Transco's various activities and to also serve as sports gymnasium.

(TRANS-05-CWMPHSLOM-EG-03-PB2)

The **NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION-SLOM,** through the *Internal Cash Generation (ICG)* intends to apply the sum of *Twelve Million One Hundred Sixty Five Thousand Two Hundred Nineteen & 03/100 (Php 12,165,219.03)* being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for *conversion of Warehouse to Multi-Purpose Hall at South Luzon Operations & Maintenance.* Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The ***NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION-SLOM*** now invites potential Bidders to submit Letter of Intent (LOI) and apply for eligibility for *the conversion of existing warehouse within the South Luzon Operations Maintenance compound to a multi-purpose building for various Transco activities and to also serve as sports gymnasium.* Bidders should possess a valid ***PCAB license*** with ***License Particular of at least: "Category B, General Building"*** and ***Registration Particular of at least: "Medium A, Building & Industrial Plant"***, respectively, have completed a similar contract involving supply of all labor, materials, supervision necessary for the construction of all types of buildings, i.e., housing, schools, hospitals, market, multi-storey buildings, airport terminal and other related structures. The value of which should be at least 50% of the ABC, and meet the other minimum eligibility requirements stated in the eligibility documents. Applications for eligibility will be evaluated on a "pass/fail" basis. The last day for submission of eligibility documents shall be on the same date of the opening of Eligibility documents: ***November 10, 2005, 9:30 A.M.*** at the address mentioned in the next succeeding paragraphs. Only those Bidders passing the eligibility check will be entitled to purchase the Bidding Document. Completion of the works is required by *160 calendar days.*

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184, (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act, and is restricted, unless otherwise stated, to organizations with at least seventy-five percent (75%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines. In accordance with IRR Part A of R.A. 9184, only bids from Bidders who passed the eligibility check will be opened. The Bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine its responsiveness to the technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during post-qualification.

Interested Bidders shall secure the Eligibility documents from the BAC Secretariat at the address stated below, starting ***October 17-November 05, 2005 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.*** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of *Php 1,500.00.* They shall submit their accomplished Eligibility documents on or before ***November 10, 2005, 9:30 A.M.*** at the stated address. Eligibility Screening shall be held on ***November 10, 2005, 9:30 A.M.*** at the OAVP Conference Room B of the stated address.

Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from ***NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION-SLOM Regional Contracts Management Office (RCMO)*** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from ***8:00 A.M.*** to ***5:00 P.M.*** on ***November 21-22, 2005.***

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by Bidders that passed the eligibility check upon the presentation of the Notice of Eligibility to the BAC Secretariat, at the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee ***PhP 4,000.00.*** The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the bidder or his authorized representative starting ***November 21-22, 2005, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.***

The ***NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION-SLOM*** will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all Eligible Bidders on ***November 25, 2005, 9:30 A.M.*** at the OAVP Conference Room Transco, SLOM San Vicente Biñan, Laguna.

Deadline for submission of bids is on ***December 08, 2005, 9:30 A.M.*** at the address below. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in any of the prescribed form indicated under Section 27.2 of R.A. 9184. Bid opening shall be on the same date, ***December 08, 2005, 9:30 A.M.*** at the ***OAVP Conference Room B of Transco SLOM.*** Late Bids shall not be accepted. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

The ***NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION-SLOM*** reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

National Transmission Corporation – South Luzon Operations & Maintenance
Regional Contracts Management Office (RCMO)
San Vicente Biñan, Laguna 4024
Mr. Reynaldo B. Vergara – BAC Chairman
(02) 981-4576 to 78 local 4094; 4086; 4053
rbvergara@transco.ph
(02) 981-45-76 to 78 local 4007
www.transco.ph

(Sgd.) REYNALDO B. VERGARA
BAC Chairman

(PDI – October 16 & 24, 2005)

DUTY FREE

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

Republic of the Philippines

Point of Sales System Hardware Project

Supply and Delivery of Point of Sales (POS) Terminals

1. **DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES**, a sector of the Philippine Tourism Authority, through the **Corporate Budget of Duty Free Philippines, 2005** intends to apply the sum of **Eighteen Million Pesos (PhP18,000,000.00)** being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for **Purchase Request (PR) # 2005100354.** Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
2. **DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES** now invites bids from eligible bidders for the ***Supply and Delivery of eighty (80) units all black POS Terminals.*** Delivery is on **March 16, 2006**
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of R.A. 9184. Only bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine the responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements. The contract shall be awarded to the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bidder (LCRB)
4. Interested bidders may obtain information from **Duty Free Philippines** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from **9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.**
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below, from 9:00AM to 5:00PM, and upon payment of a non refundable fee in the amount of **Ten Thousand Pesos (PhP 10,000.00)** in cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective bidder or his authorized representative.
6. Duty Free Philippines will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on November 9, 2005, 10:00AM at the address given below.
7. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before November 21, 2005 10:30AM. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in the form of a Cash Bond/Manager's Check (1% of ABC) in the amount of **One Hundred Eighty Thousand Pesos (PhP180,000.00)** or Bank Guarantee (1.5% of ABC) in the amount of **Two Hundred and Seventy Thousand Pesos (PhP270,000.00)**. Late Bids shall not be accepted
8. Bid opening shall be on November 21, 2005 11:00AM at the address given below. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder or bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
9. The bidder must have at least five (5) completed contracts, as of November 9, 2005, in the supply and delivery of POS terminals, in any reputable local retail establishments with similar operations as Duty Free Philippines (department stores, supermarkets, hypermarts, and specialty stores) that has all the following minimum conditions present in at least one (1) branch:
   - At least One million (1M) number of transactions per year
   - At least Twelve (12) connected and active POS terminals
   - At least One Hundred Thousand (100,000) active SKUs or items being sold
10. Duty Free Philippines reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES
ARNEL CALAPAS
Member, BAC Secretariat
EHA Bldg. FiestaMall, Columbia Complex, Ninoy Aquino Avenue, Parañaque City
(632)879-36-69 / 879-36-66 Fax No. (632) 879-36-64
bacsecretariat@dfp.com.ph http://www.dfp.com.ph

(SGD) MA.LOURDES D. VELARDE
BAC Chairman

(PDI – October 16 & 23, 2005)

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
A Global Corporation with a Global Mindset and a Filipino Heart

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
ITB No.: 08-101-2005

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder.

Name of Project : Supply, Delivery & Installation of Axminster Carpets for Airport Casino Filipino Theater
Approved Budget : Two Million Nine Hundred Ninety Two Thousand Seven Hundred Pesos (P 2,992,700.00)
Source of Fund : Internally Funded

Only suppliers duly registered with PAGCOR shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered suppliers must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Section (SRES), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the **Bid Documents** available for issuance **from October 7, 2005 to November 8, 2005** at the BAC Secretariat Unit, PPD-Corporate upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***One Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Six Pesos & 35/100 (Php 1,496.35).*** In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt issued by our Cashier to the BAC Secretariat.

The schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	*Schedule*
Pre-Bid Conference	October 19, 2005 (2pm)
Submission of Bids	November 9, 2005 (2pm)
Opening of Bids	November 9, 2005 (2 pm onwards)

PAGCOR reserves the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Please address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department.

(Sgd) RAFAEL A. FRANCISCO
Chairperson, BAC 4

(PDI--Oct. 9 & 16, 2005)

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
A Global Corporation with a Global Mindset and a Filipino Heart

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
ITB No.: 10-114-2005

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder:

Name of Project : One (1) Lot Janitorial Service for Casino Filipino-Heritage Required Personnel: 82 Janitors
Approved Budget : Twelve Million Nine Hundred Eighty Seven Thousand, Nine Hundred Seventy Three & 44/100 (P 12,987,973.44)
Source of Fund : Internally Funded

Only contractors duly registered with PAGCOR shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered contractors must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Section (SRES), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila., Tel. No. 526-0573.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the **Bid Documents** available for issuance **from October 17, 2005 to November 11, 2005** at the BBAC Secretariat, Procurement and Property Office of Casino Filipino - Heritage upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Six Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Three & 98/100 Pesos (Php 6,493.98).*** In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt issued by our Cashier to the BBAC Secretary handling the project.

The schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

ACTIVITIES	*SCHEDULE*	
Pre-Bid Conference	October 27, 2005	(2 pm)
Submission of Bids	November 14, 2005	(2 pm)
Opening of Bids	November 14, 2005	(2 pm onwards)

VENUE: Casino Filipino – Heritage, EDSA cor. Roxas Blvd., Pasay City

PAGCOR reserves the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BBAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BBAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Please address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department.

(Sgd) ROBERTO S. VALMADRID
Chairperson, BBAC CF-Heritage

(PDI - Oct. 16 & 23, 2005)

DUTY FREE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES, a division of the Philippine Tourism Authority invites interested contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for:

CONTRACT	APPROVED BUDGET OF CONTRACT
2005-2006 JANITORIAL AND ALLIED SERVICES	
Area I – (Fiestamall & EHA Bldg.)	Php 18,021,774.96
Area II – (Integrated Warehouse, NAIA 1 & 2)	6,148,399.80

The prospective service provider should:

1. have at least ten (10) year experience in the field of janitorial services and doing business with real establishment;
2. have key personnel and equipment (owned, leased or under lease-purchase available for the performance of the project;
3. Filipino citizen/sole proprietorships, organization with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to Filipino citizen.

The Approved Budget of the Contract is chargeable against DFP Corporate Fund. The contract duration is for one (1) year.

Interested bidders may obtain a complete set of bidding documents from the Purchasing Department, Duty Free Philippines, EHA Bldg., N. Aquino Avenue, Parañaque City on October 27 & 28, 2005 (Thursday & Friday), from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM upon payment of a non-refundable fee to Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) in the form of cash. Pre-bid Conference is scheduled on November 11, 2005 (Friday) at 1:00 PM, EHA 3rd floor, Executive Lounge. Submission and opening of bids and eligibility check shall be on November 22, 2005 (Tuesday) for Area I and December 13, 2005 (Tuesday) for Area II at 9:00 AM, EHA Bldg. 3rd floor Training Room. Bids submitted after the deadline shall not be accepted. All applicants shall be notified on the results of the eligibility check.

Eligible janitorial agency/ies may bid in both contract. However, only one (1) contract shall be awarded to the bidder.

Unless otherwise indicated in the Instruction to Bidders or other bidding and contract documents, all particulars relative to the procurement and contract implementation shall be governed by R.A. 9184 and its implementing rules and regulations.

Duty Free Philippines reserves the right to waive any formality on the eligibility requirements of this project. Furthermore, DFP reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered as a result of this invitation, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder/s.

(Sgd.) MA. LOURDES D. VELARDE
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – October 16 & 23, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
City Government of Zamboanga
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
City Hall, Zamboanga City
Tel. No. (062) 992-7763

So No. CW-05-08-068

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The ***City Government of Zamboanga***, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites contractors registered with and classified by Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and if found eligible, to bid for the hereunder contract:

Name of contract (By Cluster)	Location	Brief Description	Approved Budget for the Contract	Contract Duration
1. Construction of Covered Shed at Commercial Center, Bagsakan	Sta. Maria, Zamboanga City	Construction of roofed shed & stalls, ceiling for masonry, carpentry and electrical works with painting	P 6,451,500.00	One Hundred Fifty Seven (157) Calendar days
TOTAL APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT			P 6,451,500.00	

Prospective Bidders should possess a valid PCAB License applicable to the contract, have completed a similar contract with a value of at least 50% of the ABC, and have key personnel and equipment (listed in the Eligibility Forms) available for the prosecution of the contract. The BAC will use non-discretionary pass/fail criteria in the Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids. The BAC will conduct post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The schedule of BAC activities are as follows:

BAC Activities	Schedule
1. Receipt from prospective bidders of Letters of Intent (LOI) including Application for Eligibility	October 24, 2005
2. Issuance of Eligibility Forms	October 25, 2005
3. Receipt of Eligibility Requirements	October 25, 2005
4. Eligibility Check	October 26, 2005
5. Notice of Results of Eligibility Check	October 26, 2005
6. Issuance of Bid Documents	October 27, 2005
7. Pre-bid Conference	October 29, 2005
8. Receipt and Opening of Bids	November 10, 2005

The BAC will issue to prospective bidders Eligibility Forms at BAC Secretariat Office, City Hall, Zamboanga City, upon their submission of LOI, and upon their payment of a non-refundable amount of P100 for Contractor's Registry to the City Treasurer. Prospective bidders shall submit the Eligibility Requirements to the BAC at the said address. They may also obtain the results of the Eligibility Check by the BAC at the same address.

The BAC will issue Bidding Documents only to bidders declared by the BAC to be eligible for the bidding upon payment of a non-refundable amount of P3,000.00 to the City Treasurer.

The City Government of Zamboanga assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

Approved by:
(Sgd.) VIRGINIA SAN AGUSTIN GARA
BAC Chairman

(PDI – October 10 & 16, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Be forewarned that **MR. RYAHN S. QUINZON** is no longer connected with CYA INDUSTRIES, INC. effective Sept. 1, 2005.

Consequently, all actions, transactions and/or documentations of Mr. R. Quinzon in representation of CYA Industries, Inc. shall be considered unauthorized and without force and effect and shall not be honored by the company.

CYA Management

(PDI-October 16, 2005)

Nestlé Phillippines, Inc.

Notice is given that Official Receipts Nos. 2448238 - 2448250 has been reported lost since 16 September 2005. Any transaction entered into using these documents shall not be honored by the company.

(PDI – Oct. 16, 23 & 30, 2005)

POEA 24-HR HOTLINES
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Global day against pain

THE PAIN SOCIETY OF THE PHILIPpines (PSP), the Philippine chapter of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) will celebrate the 2nd Global Day Against Pain, "No Filipino Child Should Be in Pain" on Sunday, October 16 with a series of activities in Manila. According to Dr. Ma. Victoria M. Abesamis, a Pediatric Oncologist and an advocate against Pain in Children and who is this year's Chairman for the celebration, the affair will start at 5:30 AM with a walk from Museo Pambata (Roxas Blvd. Cor. Kalaw St.), all the way to Rajah Sulayman Plaza in front of Malate Church to be participated in by children with their families, members of PSP and other medical societies involved in pain management as well as friends from the entertainment and pharmaceutical industry and the general public. There will also be a program to highlight a signing of a memorandum of agreement among the government and non-government sectors in the society pledging their commitment to make sure that "No Filipino Child Should Be in Pain," entertainment, storytelling, magic shows, and clowns, as well as a free clinic where the various specialties dealing with pain in adults and children like Anesthesiology, Neurology, Rheumatology, Rehabilitation Medicine, Internal Medicine, Psychiatry and Pediatrics will be available. For details, please call the PSP Secretariat 721-2700 or Dr. Marvie M. Abesamis, 928-0611 loc. 365.

CIC deploys thousand Pinoys to Canada

THE CANADIAN IMMIGRATION CONsultancy (CIC), the country's most reputable consultancy firm is continually giving Filipinos a chance to live the life they dream about.

From January to June this year, over 400 principal applicants were granted permanent resident visa, including 729 spouse and dependent children.

The visa grantees, comprising mostly of professionals will now hold their ticket to one in a thousand opportunities. Most of them are financial managers, computer systems analysts and programmers, engineers, technical sales specialists, accountants, social workers, agriculturists, and social workers.

For over a decade, CIC has processed thousands of applicants that are now in the Canadian Embassy's priority lists. These include applications where screening has been completed and are now waiting for further notice from the embassy.

CIC offers various service packages that include 50 percent discount on standard consultancy fee. Clients are provided a complete range of services — from submission of application, correspondence with the Canadian Embassy, until their arrival in Canada. The service also includes enhancement of job description, document review, and proper encoding of application forms.

With the pass mark lowered to 67 points, from 75 points, single applicants and those without relatives in Canada may now qualify.

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Sunday BIZ

He wanted to be a priest; ended up a banker

By Grace Cantal-Albasin
PDI Mindanao Bureau

MALAYBALAY CITY—HE WANTed to become a priest so he could serve God and His people. But he ended up taking accounting instead, and found his vocation in banking and finance.

Estelito Marabe, 39, believes that his becoming a finance person is God's will.

He first got a taste of it when he took up accountancy at the San Beda College in Manila, as his mother objected to his plan to enter the seminary.

Marabe says his father actually wanted him to study in Cebu, but he insisted on going to Manila. He is grateful now for having insisted on going to the big city as it gave him "a global outlook in life." The

HE WANTED/ B2

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005

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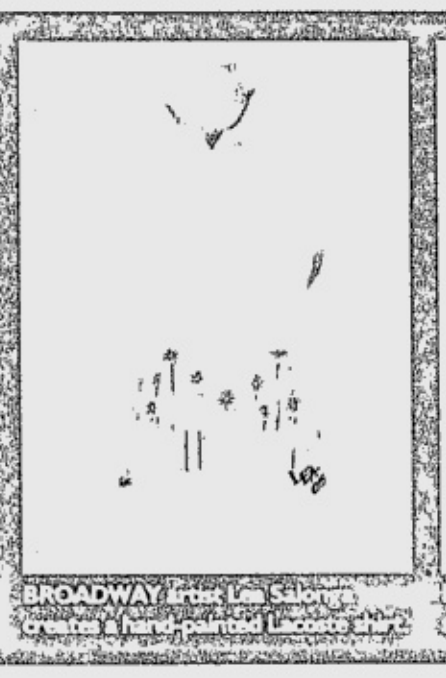
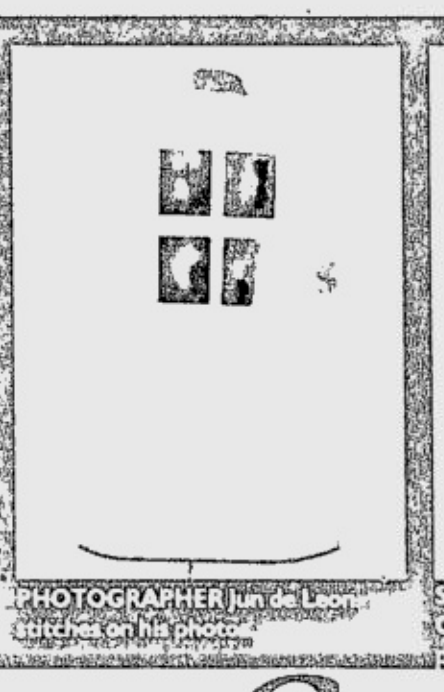
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

PUBLISHER Sandy Romualdez puts the crocodile in the headline.

LINGERIE designer Josie Natori does a Cheongsam



BROADWAY star Lea Salonga creates a hand-painted Lacoste shirt



PHOTOGRAPHER Jun de Leon tinkers on his photo-

SILK Cocoon designer Jeannie Goulbourn creates a crocodile pattern shirt

Getting creative with the Croc

FASHIONISTA Tessa Prieto-Valdes adorns her creation with feathers.

SEVERAL ARTISTS AND personalities have done wonders with the staple Lacoste tee as an expression of creativity as well as a way of helping professional musicians in the country.

Project 12.12 is a global Lacoste initiative where select personalities will embellish the classic Lacoste 12.12 shirt. In the Philippines, the project is spearheaded by Store Specialists, Inc.

The shirts will be auctioned for the benefit of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra Instruments Fund.

Lacoste, known for its involvement in cultivating arts and culture worldwide, is collaborating with the PPO to help them acquire new musical instruments. Philippe Lacoste, external relations director-Lacoste S.A., will be in Manila for the auction's culminating event.

Participating artists include National Artists Napoleon Abueva and Arturo Luz, HSBC CEO Warner and Julie Manning, renowned architects Francisco Manosa and Lor Calma, designers Inno Sotto, Jeannie Goulbourn and Jojie Lloren, Broadway star Lea Salonga, sportsman Francisco "Django" Bustamante, photographer Jun de Leon, designer Anton Mendoza, lingerie queen Josie Natori, sculptor Impy Pilapil, billiards king Efren "Bata" Reyes, media maven Sandy Romualdez, Culte Femme princess Hindy Tantoco, fashion maverick Tessa Prieto-Valdes, Kuok Group of Companies country head Tom Zita Jr. and wife Kathy, megastar Sharon Cuneta-Pangilinan, and Ayala patriarch Jaime Zobel de Ayala, among others.

NATIONAL Artist Arturo Luz creates a collage. Right: Husband-and-wife team Tom and Kathy Zita creates a bag-and-stuffed toy duo.

FASHION designer Joji Lloren creates a sculpture.

Their personalized 12.12 creations will be displayed at the Lacoste Greenbelt 3 boutique from Sunday until Oct. 26 and are open for bidding by interested customers. The exhibit moves to the Greenbelt Lobby Lounge on Oct. 27 for the final silent auction.

Lacoste is exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists Inc. Lacoste stores are located at Power Plant Mall, SM Megamall, Gateway Mall, Robinsons Place Manila, Robinsons Galleria, Greenbelt 3, The Store-Grand Blvd. Hotel, Corte de las Palmas-Alabang Town Center, Ayala Center Cebu, Rustan's Harrison Plaza, Rustan's Tower, and Rustan's Makati.

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BUBLÉ fans Marilu Martirez, Virgie Ramos and Mary Anne Lumen

VP NOLI de Castro and wife Arlene

SEN. BONG Revilla and Lani Mercado

CROONER Michael Bublé and a sea of cell-phone cameras

Three affairs, one petticoat dress

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

DO YOU EVER REPEAT your outfits?" I have been asked this question dozens of times and I always respond with a definite "Yes." The way to getting away with repeat outfits is to drastically alter the look by using different tops or unusual accessories or, in extreme cases, wearing another colored wig. So I do repeat my outfits, but the packaging is always different.

For instance, I trotted out the same petticoat dress to three separate events last month. Designed by young designer **Christine Go** (0917-5555558), the dress looked new at each event. Looking at the photos, I'd like to think I got progressively slimmer through the month, but I think the reality was, the height of my hairdo just got progressively taller. As I always say, when it comes to fashion, "It's all a façade!"

The way to getting away with repeat outfits is to drastically alter the look by using different tops, unusual accessories or another colored wig

Creamy bash

The 10th year celebration of Lush, held at Greenbelt 3, was Petticoat's Event No. 1. My pale olive and fuchsia-ribboned dress matched the colors of the new Lush products like the shower jellies that you put into a freezer until just before bath time. I just followed the delightful scents of mint and lemon and found my way to the shop and the intimate lunch party.

Together with other September birthday celebrators, we were honored with gift sets and a birthday cake. The tables were adorned with creamy cakes of glycerine soap that had "Do not eat!" signs because they did look so yummy. There were also soft, buttery, cream soap bars hand-rolled in rose petals, chocolate, cocoa butter and other unexpected "packaging."

Store Specialists' big boss, **Anton Huang**, was in his rugged, construction look that day because he was overseeing the final details of the huge Zara shop at The Power Plant, which just opened last Friday. If ever I could choose whom to be reincarnated as, I would like to be Anton's daughter! I could just walk into any SSI shop and pick an outfit. With the new Zara clothing label in their portfolio, I wouldn't have to worry about clothes since they carry sizes from toddler to adult.

On second thought, maybe I would want instead to return as **Anna Krolicka**, a Polish supermodel, who recently graced the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Show at the Harbor Garden Tent of the Westin Philippine Plaza.

Height does matter, especially if you are modeling the sophisticated, elegant gowns of Escada. After the show, the towering model mingled with the guests who were admiring either impressive Anna or the equally impressive Mercedes-Benz cars.

Since the fashion show was the same day as the Lush event, I wore my Christine Go petticoat again but just changed wigs, darkened my makeup and wore my PrettyFit bejeweled shoes. The whole ensemble was a perfect contrast to the red covered tent and the metallic silver cars. The icing on the cake was when the statuesque Ms Anna K complimented me on my outfit.

Entertaining show

The latest but not the last exposure of the petticoat was when I combined it with the expert hair-and-makeup artistry of **Lourd Ramos**, the new resident artist of MAC Cosmetics. Being the new endorser of this fab makeup, I asked Lourd to transform my look using the creative skills he learned from his recent training in Malaysia. I wanted to look glamorous for the **Michael Bublé** concert that evening at the Araneta Coliseum.

Luckily, there was minimal traffic on Edsa so my husband Dennis and I made it to the show just in time for his second song. We were happy to be on a "date" and taking a break from all the pumping and feeding of my 5-month-old Athena.

Thanks to the invitations of belly-dancing friend **Mary Anne Lumen** and Tempur owner **Loli Sy**, the very entertaining concert was so enjoyable. The Canadian crooner has become more seasoned and comfortable with his Pinoy audience, and kept us in stitches in between his flawless singing.

As a sponsor of the concert, Urban Spa ads—with shots of me from over a year ago—were flashed on screen. I noticed they were old photos since the present "me" is still happily plump. After talking to sexy **Plinky Recto** at the post-Bublé concert party at Red in Makati Shang, I was convinced to try Pilates soon. She promised me I would not hurt after the workout and still get the proper toning. But the operative word is how to define "soon," as I headed to the dessert buffet filled with delicious pastries and cakes.

Cultural shaper

Unfortunately, packaging is everything. I can camouflage my fat with faux furs and wraps but any outfit would fall so much better with a toned body. If there is one person who is an expert in packaging, it's industrial designer and cultural shaper **Karim Rashid**.

At his extremely inspiring design talk in Every Nation Building in Bonifacio Global City, he cited as an example how small Italian businesses come up with a fantastic brochure even with just a few pieces of furniture. He also spoke of the need for diversity in one's work and not just being limited to the specific field of design one is in. Think global and always out of the box. Check out his website, www.karimrashid.com, to further appreciate this design genius.

Today is the Old Girls' Day Celebration at Assumption College San Lorenzo. Every year, the school's Silver Jubilarians host a whole-day fun affair with Mass, lunch with food booths, mini-bazaar and a *velada* show open to all.

The show, titled "What a Journey" by HS Class '80, is at 2:30 p.m. at the newly refurbished, state-of-the-art Mother Rose Auditorium. Together with the Gold, Ruby and Pearl batches, a program of songs, dances and memories happens throughout the day, adorned with the familiar red plaid worn by the Assumptionistas of decades past.

Though packaging is essential to impress others, it's the inside that really counts. With Christmas just around the corner, better include some charity in your merrymaking plans.

If you are at a loss as to how to share your time or money, Hands On Manila can surely help. To volunteer or get info, call Perrey Belen at 8437044 or e-mail homla@info.com.ph or check out www.handsonmla.org. It will put a star into your *belen* this Christmas!

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.

LUSH birthday guests Cathy Yap, Ketchup Eusebio, me, Maui David, Vicky Tensuan and Rich David

SUPERMODEL Anna Krolicka (second from right) with Linda Rosal, Rosan Cruz and Gai Olivares

MAC Cosmetics makeup artist Lourd Ramos

INSPIRING designer Karim Rashid with Kate Torralba, Sonia Santiago-Olivares and guests

BIRTHDAY girl Cathy Yap with Mike Huang

GERMAN beauties: Escada model on Mercedes-Benz

SSI boss Anton Huang with Metro Society's Mia Borromeo and Philip Cu-Unjieng

LUSH-SCENTED beauties Maui David, Pam Pastor and Bianca Consunji

FURNITURE manufacturers Roberto Locsin, Isabel Kier and Rashmi Singh

MAJOR sponsors Boy Martirez, Francis Lumen and Ricky Isla

FRENCH Baker owner Johnlu Koa and gorgeous wife Alou of Escada

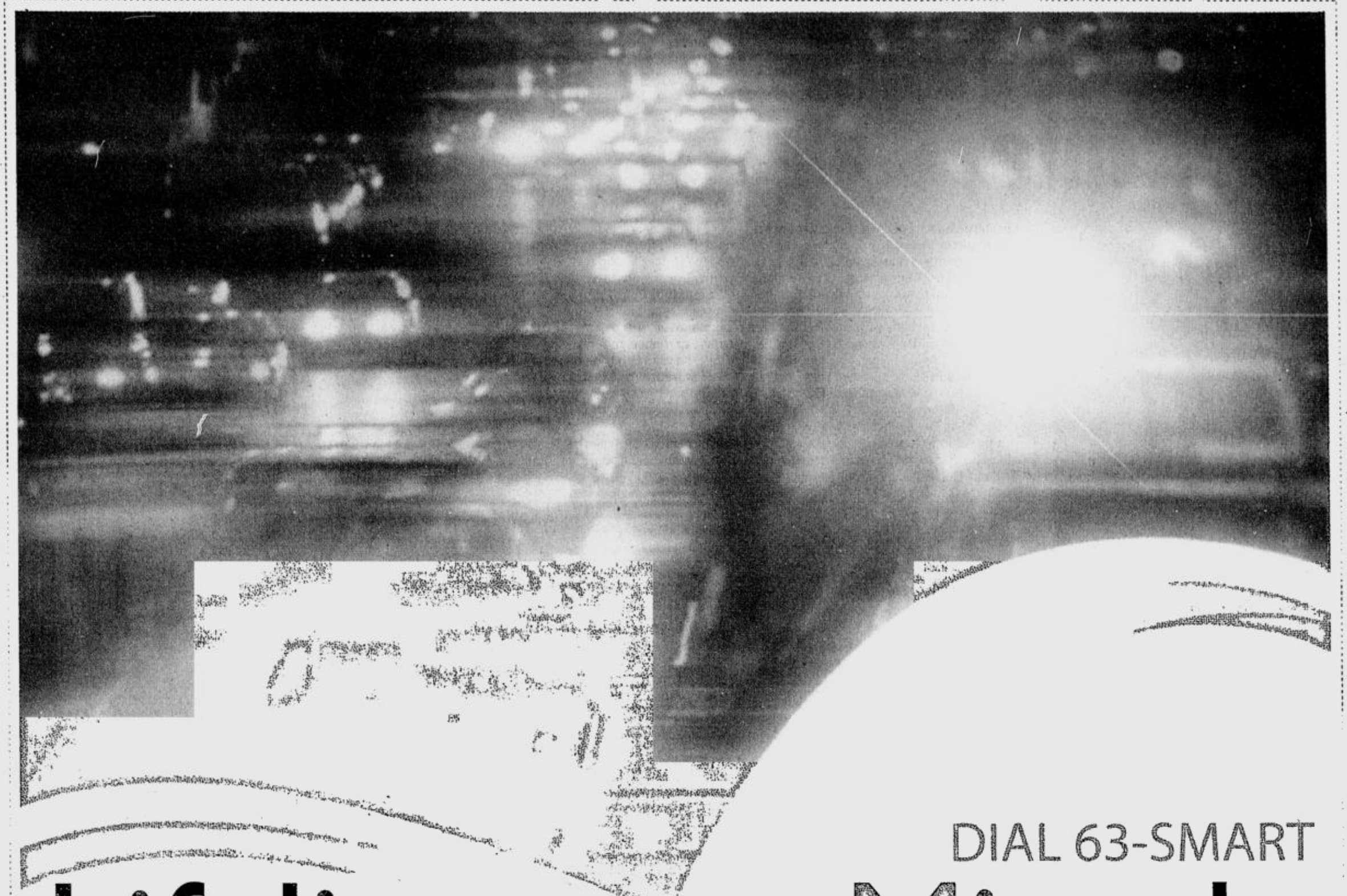
LOVELY ladies Vicky Soriano and Julie Carceller

TALENTED artists Arnel Papa and Ivan Acuna

ASSUMPTIONISTA Class '80 Jeannie Javelosa and Fe Reyes

ELEGANT couple Emilie and Albertito Lopez

SIEMATIC sponsor Loli Sy and Siematic director Volker Betsch



DIAL 63-SMART

Lifeline to a Miracle

A Story of a Life Saved

Benjo Ramos recounts what transpired that night

"My instinctive reaction was to attend to the guy who had just been hit by a taxi, and that's what we did."

"It could have been far more disastrous"

Benjo makes a call on his SMART Infinity phone

Gil Puyat Avenue was relatively deserted at this hour—approximately 2am, to be exact. Rain clouds had brought scattered showers, blocking any hope of moonlight. Motorists plying one of Makati's main arteries cautiously took advantage of the uncongested road. For most people, their Saturday night was drawing to an end. For Benjo Ramos and his companions, a matter of life or death loomed ahead. Like all weekend revellers, they were in high spirits. Nothing was about to dampen that, not even the dreary weather... Or so they thought.

Benjo and a group of friends had just parted ways from a night out on the town. Traveling in 2 vehicles heading for different destinations, fate had it that they would all converge again at the same point, within minutes, for the unthinkable. As Benjo drove along Gil Puyat Avenue, he spotted a German sedan ahead that was traveling in an erratic manner, apparently trying to block a white taxi from moving. He observed this until finally the taxi and the sedan came to a halt. Amid the confusion, however, the taxi eventually managed to escape and disappear into the darkness. Benjo's friends in the other car offered to chase the taxi. Benjo, however, had noticed something that made him think twice.

He had made a spine-chilling discovery: there, by the side of the road, lay a bloodied person with tattered clothes, completely motionless. After approaching the victim and assessing the extent of his injuries, the man's arm suddenly twitched, then began to move more violently. He was clearly in agonizing pain. Shocked and horrified, the group made frantic calls to various emergency hotlines and hospitals. Now that they knew this person was still alive, they were only interested in one thing: keeping him alive. But their attempts to call for help proved futile. They even went as far as flagging down passing motorists, desperately hoping that one of them would be a doctor, a nurse, or any qualified professional; with no such luck. Although the police eventually arrived, none of the hospitals could dispatch an ambulance or offer any emergency aid. Benjo knew that it was just a matter of time before the victim, who had apparently been lying there for just a few seconds before he was discovered, would bleed to death. As known to most, situations like this dictate that the victim should not be touched or moved by anyone other than a qualified paramedic. Benjo's dilemma was just that: no ambulance was coming and the minutes were painfully ticking away, while this gravely injured man's life hung in the balance.

Remembering a SMART Infinity feature, Benjo quickly called International Concierge from his SMART Infinty phone—a 24-hour international relay service for emergency situations. It took just 1 ring after dialling **63-SMART** for an operator to pick up and promise to dispatch a rescue team immediately. Meanwhile, the amount of blood on the road was reaching alarming proportions. Benjo and his companions did what they could to assure the injured man that help was on the way. At that point, that was all they really could do.

Fifteen minutes later, the ambulance dispatched by International Concierge arrived and a well-trained team of paramedics got to work. The man was then rushed to the hospital, closely followed by Benjo's convoy, where he was treated for severe lacerations and head injuries. While his identity remains a mystery, his condition is said to have stabilized and is recovering remarkably well.

As it turned out, the man was an apparent victim of a hit-and-run incident and the white taxi that fled the scene is now being tracked down for questioning. After the victim was knocked to the ground, the driver of the German sedan attempted to stop the taxi in its tracks as it tried to make a getaway. When it finally managed to flee, Benjo opted against giving chase when he saw the victim lying on the road. "My instinctive reaction was to attend to the guy who had just been hit by a taxi, and that's what we all did. We could have run after the taxi, but that would have meant leaving the guy on the road unattended. Now that he's recovering, I'm glad we made that decision", recalls Benjo. "As the man carried no identification whatsoever, we hope that this story will encourage anyone who might know the victim to come forward", he added.

Indeed, the International Concierge service offered by SMART Infinity was instrumental in saving this man's life. However, had it not been for the quick-thinking resourcefulness of Benjo Ramos that fateful morning, things could easily have turned out differently. In the end, all these factors worked hand in hand to produce nothing short of a miracle.

SMART Infinity
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Verdana Family Day offers sneak peek into *cozy suburban lifestyle*

Verdana Homes Mamplasan buyer Robin Concepcion and daughter

It was the perfect occasion for imagining bright futures and dreaming of domestic bliss at the successfully concluded Family Picnic Day at Verdana Homes Mamplasan, Community Innovations' ideal-sized development located in the secluded suburban environment of Biñan, Laguna.

Sunshine, fresh breeze, and a warm, neighborly reception greeted new lot owners, potential buyers and their families at the development site. The day's festivities began with a mass and blessing ceremony of the two new model homes, presided by Rev. Makairog Reyes, who was later joined by Community Innovations executives and special guests. Afterwards, guests were treated to picnic fare and outdoor entertainment.

Kids particularly enjoyed the cuddly canine antics showcased in the dog show, marveled at the awesome tricks of the juggling duo, and clamored for the twisty balloon treats and goody bags distributed around the picnic grounds. Their parents, on the other hand, keenly inspected the site's latest developments, from the house's tasteful interiors to the construction of the village's Balinese clubhouse, the centerpiece of its 2.2 hectare Central Park. As the day progressed, guests mingled freely and chatted amiably, perhaps even getting to know their future neighbors!

Verdana Homes Mamplasan is designed to foster interaction between neighbors with similar interests, values and aspirations. According to Community Innovations president Bobby Dy, creating harmonious family and social relationships was the primary consideration in the community's master plan. "Today's families and young professionals have a renewed appreciation for community life, and [Community Innovations] addresses that need by creating ideal-sized developments where all residences and amenities are walking distance from each other, thus giving residents a feeling of security and well-being," he says. Dy also shares that this community-centered vision extends to Verdana Homes Mamplasan's Balinese-inspired design, noting that - like Filipinos - traditional Balinese culture holds the family in high regard.

Indeed, creating a secure future for their families seems to be the primary concern of the first set of Verdana Homes Mamplasan lot owners. Working couple Pablo and Tet Lacsamana, for instance, were attracted to the clean and quiet environment that the community offered. "Our four-year old daughter Yanessa has asthma, and I'm certain that the fresh air and lush greenery will do wonders for her health," says Tet.

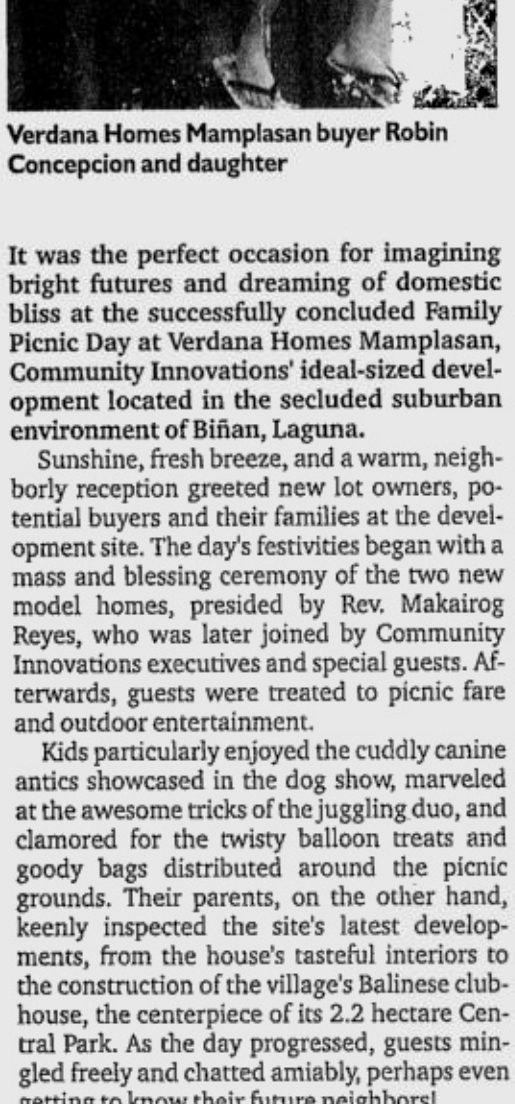
Robin Concepcion, on the other hand, relocated his family from Quezon City to Sta. Rosa when his electronics business opened a plant in Laguna Techno Park, one of the many industrial, commercial and business hubs within the community's vicinity. "Upgrading to a home in Verdana Homes Mamplasan was the most sensible thing to do," says Robin, who purchased two adjoining lots facing the 2.2 hectare Central Park. Another factor in his decision to purchase the property was the expertise and heritage that Ayala Land brings to Verdana Homes Mamplasan. "I've bought properties from Ayala Land subsidiaries before, and I'm confident that this new residential development will be as successful as their existing communities," he adds. Located at the gateway to Ayala South, Verdana Homes Mamplasan can now be accessed via an exclusive road from the Mamplasan Exit of the South Luzon Expressway.

The Verdana Family Picnic Day gave potential residents a sneak peek into the cozy suburban lifestyle that awaits all future homeowners of Verdana Homes Mamplasan. Families and other individuals seeking a balanced and harmony-filled lifestyle can look forward to other Verdana Homes Mamplasan events from Community Innovations in the near future.

Community Innovations is an Ayala Land company that builds balanced, harmonious communities with a sense of fun, where the living experience enhances the lifestyles and fulfills the aspirations of its customers.

For more information on Verdana Homes Mamplasan, call 888-0000 or email cii-sales@ayalaland.com.ph. Inquiries may also be made at www.verdanamamplasan.com.ph , or at the Verdana Homes Mamplasan sales booth in Alabang Town Center.

For the Jonathan Umali, Head of Project Development; Dan Abando, Head of Technical Services; Bobby Dy, President, CII and Eunice Acejo, Manager, Marketing Services



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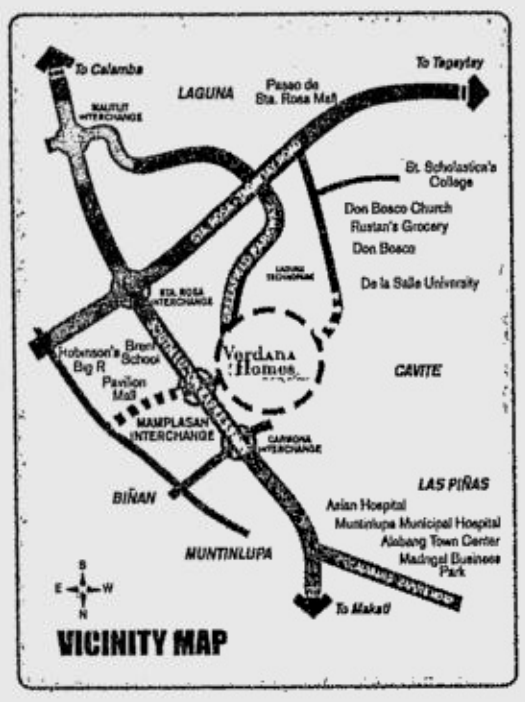

Know your neighbors on a first-name basis.

At Verdana Mamplasan, it's so easy to get close to your neighbors that you'll soon find yourself identifying streets by the names of your friends who live along them. Helps especially when your kids suddenly say "We'll be over at Tito Mike's." You'll know instantly they're going somewhere near and reassuringly safe. That's what Verdana Mamplasan is all about. The walkways are plentiful, the amenities are all walking-distance, the security is second to none, and the neighbors are, well, truly neighborly. Inquire now.

Verdana Homes mamplasan

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Another crown for Our Lady

Marikina's Our Lady of the Abandoned will have its canonical coronation on Oct. 23

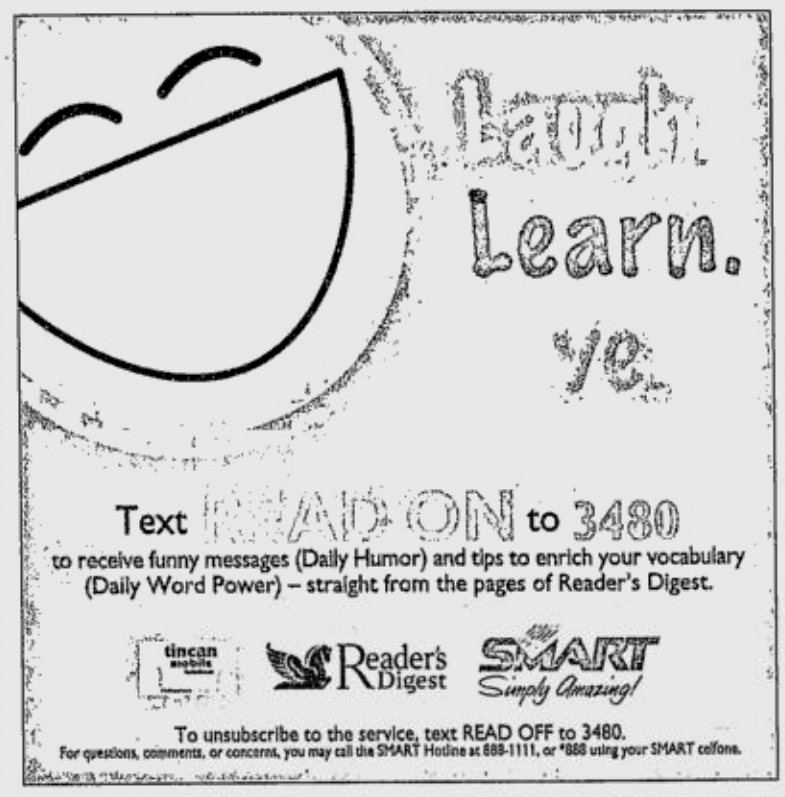
AUGUST DELA CRUZ

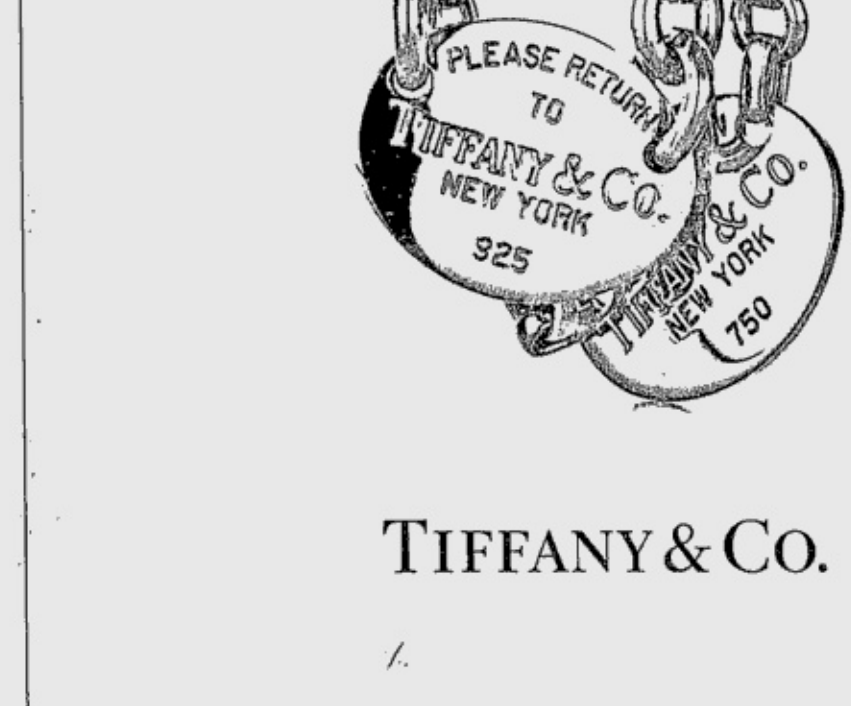
By Alex Y. Vergara

THE COUNTry's esteemed place in Rome didn't die with the death of Pope John Paul II. No less than his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, has recently reaffirmed his love for the Philippines.

On April 22, two days after the German Pope assumed the papacy, he signed one of his first Papal Bulls (decree) that

ANOTHER/ D2





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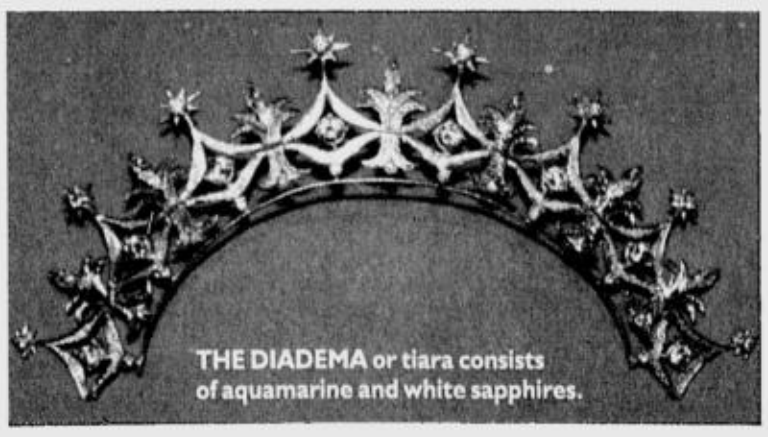
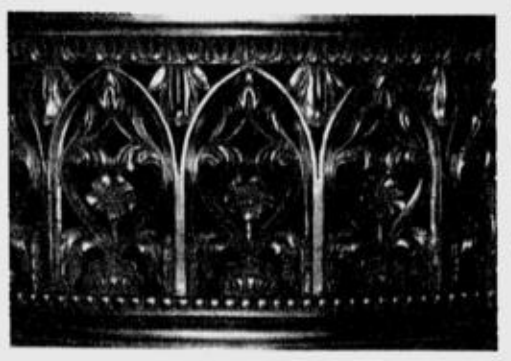

THE DIADEMA or tiara consists of aquamarine and white sapphires.

OUR LADY'S necklace

OUR LADY'S crown and, below it, Joven and De Jesus' design


CANONICAL throne is Art Deco in inspiration.

Another crown for Our Lady

From page D1

paved the way for the Canonical Coronation of Our Lady of the Abandoned next Sunday, Oct. 23.

Hailed as the patroness of the city of Marikina, Our Lady of the Abandoned (Nuestra Señora de los Desamparados) is the 23rd Marian image in the Philippines to receive such an honor. The last Marian image to be canonically crowned was that of Nuestra Señora del Buen Suceso of Parañaque in 2002.

COMMEMORATIVE image of Our Lady of the Abandoned
AUGUST DELA CRUZ

"Since we're the only Catholic country in Asia and the third largest Catholic country in the world after Mexico and Brazil, the Philippines plays an important role in spreading the Christian faith," said Msgr. Arnel Lagarejos, parish priest of Our Lady of the Abandoned Church. "The Vatican acknowledges our country's importance."

The Canonical Coronation, to be officiated by Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales, has gained more significance since the Church is currently celebrating the Eucharistic Marian Year. Bishop Gabriel Reyes of Antipolo and chief justice of the Supreme Court Hilario Davide will assist Rosales.

Pomp and pageantry

More than the pomp and pageantry involved in such a ceremony, a Canonical Coronation is one of the highest forms of recognition the Pope gives to a Marian image and the devotion it has spawned.

MSGR. ARNEL Lagarejos, parish priest of Our Lady of the Abandoned, with Jerome de Jesus and Tom Joven
AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Msgr. Lagarejos, thus, expects the number of devotees to Our Lady to increase in the aftermath of the coronation. As many as 4,000 petitioners were reportedly responsible for bringing the parish's cause to the attention of the then ailing Pope John Paul II. The number includes parents of a kidnap victim who sought the Virgin Mary's intercession.

"For some strange reason," said Msgr. Lagarejos, "the child escaped and the kidnappers were later caught. No ransom was paid. This prompted (Marikina) Mayor Marides Fernando to say in jest that Our Lady has now become the patroness of kidnap victims."

Among the image's famous devotees are Metro Manila Development Authority chair Bayani Fernando (Mayor Fernando's husband) and AFP Chief of Staff Generoso Senga.

The people of Marikina had petitioned Pope John Paul II as early as December 2001 to have their beloved patroness canonically crowned. They were then in the thick of preparations for the image's centennial year, which they hoped would culminate in a papal recognition by May 12, 2002, Our Lady's feast day.

The then Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Antonio Franco, submitted the necessary data to Rome. On March 2002, however, the petitioners learned that their papers were incomplete. Thus, they had to settle for an Episcopal Coronation, which the Apostolic Nuncio was gracious enough to recommend.

After three years, the committee tasked to complete all the requirements was finally able to send the necessary papers to Rome. The petitioners were hoping to get the much-needed papal endorsement months before Our Lady's May 12, 2005, feast day. Again, this wasn't meant to be due to Pope John Paul II's grave condition.

By the time Pope Benedict XVI signed the Papal Bull, the people of Marikina had less than a month to prepare for the Canonical

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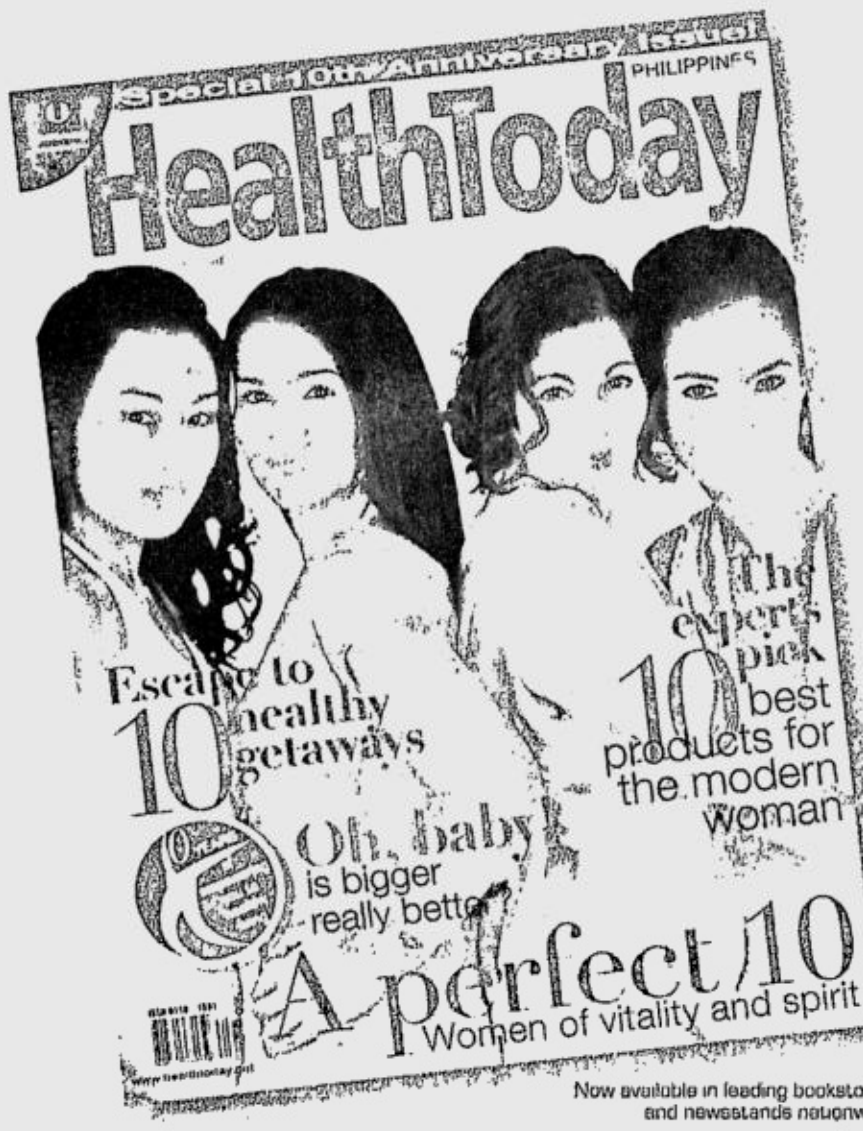

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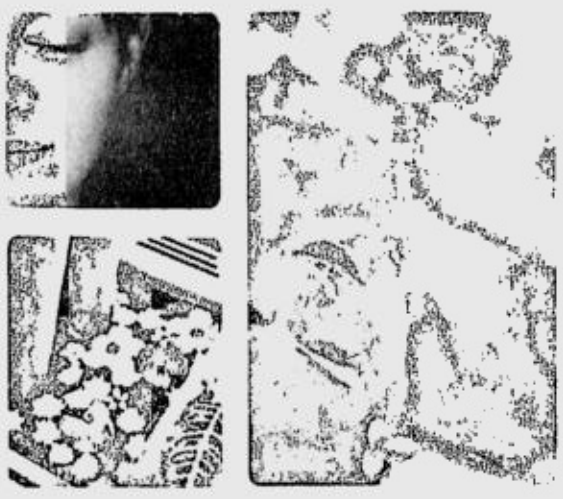

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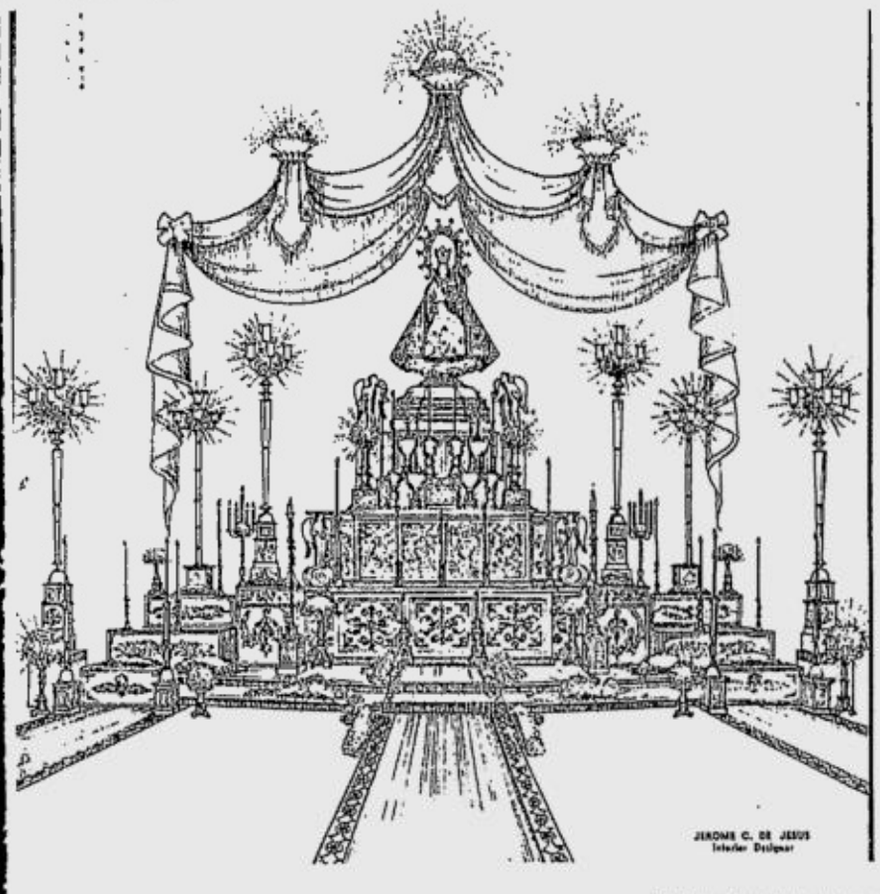
JEROME C. DE JESUS
Interior Designer

PAIR of wooden cherubs (above) from Joven's personal collection, and De Jesus' rendition of the central altar (left) on coronation day this Sunday, Oct. 23

THIS pair of angel images will adorn the base of Our Lady's image.

image, which had been painted many times over, to its original color.

Joven had to scrape almost ten layers of paint to get to his objective. From being a pale beauty, the Virgin's original color turned out to be sun-kissed brown and the Child Jesus she carries comes with a set of teeth!

Art Deco vestment

The image of Our Lady was made in the Philippines by Filipino artisans in 1902 after the original image from Valencia, Spain, was burned during the Filipino-American War in 1898. Since Art Deco prevailed during that time, Joven and De Jesus drew heavily from it in designing the image's Canonical crown and vestment.

A prominent family in Marikina donated the money for the crown, while Joven had to dig into his own pocket for the image's vestment.

They tapped jeweler Ramon Villegas to execute their design, which consists of a gold-plated silver crown embellished with aquamarines and white sapphires. The same stones also adorn the Virgin's diadema or tiara.

Made of embroidered brocade, the gold vestment echoes the same design sensibility as that of the crown. The duo also had several huge roses fashioned from satin and organza to act as the vestment's petticoat.

For this special day, the image of Our Lady will be moved to the center. In keeping with the turn-of-the-last-century theme, De Jesus designed an elevated altar with a series of overhead swags that reflect the look and feel of a bygone era. The church's pillars will be embellished with paper flowers in white and yellow.

"I hope this [Canonical Coronation] ushers in a new era of Marian devotion that could lead to peace and reconciliation in our country," said Msgr. Lagarejos.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

BORDADERO works on Our Lady's brocade vestment.

Coronation. Rather than wait for a miracle, which was exactly what they needed had they gone ahead, they decided to postpone the ceremony by five months.

"It usually takes a year to prepare for an event like this," said Msgr. Lagarejos. "We had to do it now, however, as a fitting event to end the Eucharistic Marian year."

FAUX roses of satin and organza

Big event

For the big event this Sunday, the parish has tapped the assistance of good friends and fellow Pampangueños Tom Joven and Jerome de Jesus. The UST Choir and Orchestra will be singing sacred hymns from the church's loft.

Joven, an ecclesiastical art restorer, and De Jesus, an interior designer, have collaborated on a number of church-related projects before, including the unearthing and renovation of the lahar-devastated Catholic church in their native Bacolor. Having lived with his family in Marikina for almost two decades now, De Jesus also considers the city his second home.

THE SUN-KISSED image of Our Lady of the Abandoned during the Episcopal coronation

As in a number of their collaborative efforts in the past, the two are again working pro bono. They're also lending the parish a number of pieces from their respective collections such as candelabras, jewelry, cherubs and a canonical throne.

This won't be the first time the duo will be working on Our Lady. During the run-up to the image's Episcopal Coronation three years ago, the parish commissioned Joven to restore the

ECCLESIASTICAL art restorer Joven puts some finishing touches on the canonical throne of Our Lady.

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Guitarist wows city of guitar makers

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

INSTITUTO CERVANTES, AS part of its annual October celebration of Spanish Fiesta, brought to Cebu the brilliant guitar artist **Jorge Orozco**, an internationally acclaimed musician.

The recital was held at the Sinulog ballroom of City Sports Club that had excellent acoustics. Instituto Cervantes again found ready partners in the Arts Council that teamed up with main sponsor Globe Platinum and the Marriott Hotel which hosted the artist.

Institute director **Javier Galvan** acknowledged the support of Amigos de España en Cebu. He waxed nostalgic as this was his last Spanish fiesta. He will soon complete his five-year tour of duty in the Philippines.

His tour has been intense, including the setting up of a new site for the institute in Manila. They expect Spain's Crown **Prince Felipe** to inaugurate it.

The guitarist's first piece, **Francisco Tarrega's** "Capricho Arabe" ("Arabian Caprice for Guitar" in English) was greeted with enthusiastic applause by the 400-strong audience, composed mostly of young students.

Five delightful pieces by **Estanislao Marco** (1873-1954) followed. Like Orozco, Marco was from the region of Valencia. He was a well-known performer and guitar composer in his time. After his death, many thought that only nine out of his more than 50 compositions survived.

But in 2000, in a flea market in Valencia, Orozco came upon a bundle of papers marked "Guitarra." They turned out to be complete scores of Marco's compositions. Some people are skeptical about the story.

Jorge recorded two compact discs of Marco's works, and will do two more to complete the documentation. He was elated to have saved the works for posterity.

The first part of the recital ended with "Malagueña" and "Asturias" by Isaac Albeniz. After a brief intermission came a totally different kind of guitar music that left the audience rapt with wondrous attention. Featured were contemporary composers who created work specifically—pretty emotive, too—for guitar.

"Saudade No. 3" by Roland Dyens was filled with Brazilian rhythm and brio. We are told that Saudade, in Brazil, means nostalgia. "Dawn of the Last Day" by Frenchman Francis Kleynjans is about the long wait and agony of a man to be executed at sunrise. Orozco concluded the piece with a slithering run on a string that sounded just like the guillotine.

The finale was the "Koyunbaba Suite for Guitar" by Carlo Domenicone. Everyone called it a Turkish delight as it was inspired by a farm in Turkey through which a brook runs. Of course, Jorge made it sound like there was tinkling water in the hall.

Sustained applause and a standing ovation, punctuated by shouts of Bravo, merited an encore from Señor Orozco. He dedicated it to Margot Larrañaga who was in the audience. Margot is the mother of Paco, a Spanish boy meted the death penalty and for whom various international entities had pleaded for clemency.

JUAN GUARDIOLA and Amparito Lhuillier (seated); *amigas* Myra Gonzalez, Julina Muertegui, Fe Villarica and Cecilia Rodriguez

ARTS COUNCIL executive secretary Mariz Rallos, guitar artist Jorge Orozco, Instituto Cervantes director Javier Galvan and Arts Council of Cebu Foundation president Petite Carcia

A garland of flowers was presented to Jorge by **Amparito Llamas Lhuillier**, president of Amigos de España en Cebu. The organization's members had been very supportive of this recital, like vice president **Susan Sala** and her husband **Jose B. Sala** (honorary consul of Sweden in Cebu), secretary **Myra Gonzalez y Osmeña**, and treasurer **Julina Pando de Muertegui**.

Among those present were the honorary consul of the Netherlands **Roberto Aboitiz** and his wife Marian **Cabarrus Aboitiz**, **Annie Osmeña Aboitiz**, **Vilma Ouano**, **Margarita Gonzalez**, **Alberto** and **Maritere de Rotaeche**, **Rosebud Sala**, **Anna Marie Dizon**, **Kingsley Medalla** and **Tina Ebrada**.

After the recital, an elegant formal dinner followed at the dining salon of the Casino Español, presided by Arts Council president **Petite Garcia** and vice presidents **Maxwell Espina** and **Vivina Yrastorza**, the latter being in the committee for the event.

Teresing Mendezona drew up the menu, and came up with the idea for the décor. She thanked **Jaime Chua**, who was at the dinner, for the magnificent orchids, palm fronds and other plants that decorated the stage. **Karl Hudson**, general manager of the Marriott Hotel, was present, too, as it was not rehearsal night for him (he is playing the British ambassador in the Sacred Heart School for Boys-Jesuit production of "The King and I").

The Arts Council says Spanish Fiesta continues in Cebu with a film festival Oct. 28-30 at Cinema 2 of SM City Cebu. This is as good a time as any to thank the rest of the sponsors from the Amigos de España en Cebu. The list reads like Cebu's Who's Who of old families:

Ernesto Aboitiz, Angeles Antigua, Pinky Chang, Ma. Pilar Escaño, Julie Gandionco, Chi-Chi Martinez, Jose Mari Miranda, Lourdes Pi, Narise, Lisa Paradise, Lulu Aboitiz, Carmen Martinez, and Cristina Moraza.

Monthly meetings of the Amigos are held at the Casino Español de Cebu, and are lots of fun as everyone is expected to speak only in Spanish. Efforts, even from the most proficient, can be hilarious.

At a recent meeting, the special guest was **Juan Guardiola**, dashing young man from Barcelona who will curate an important exhibit of Philippine works in Spain through the cities of Madrid, Barcelona and Bilbao. That will be in 2007, designated as The year of Philippines in Spain. Or is it sooner, in 2006? We'll tell you when we get more details.

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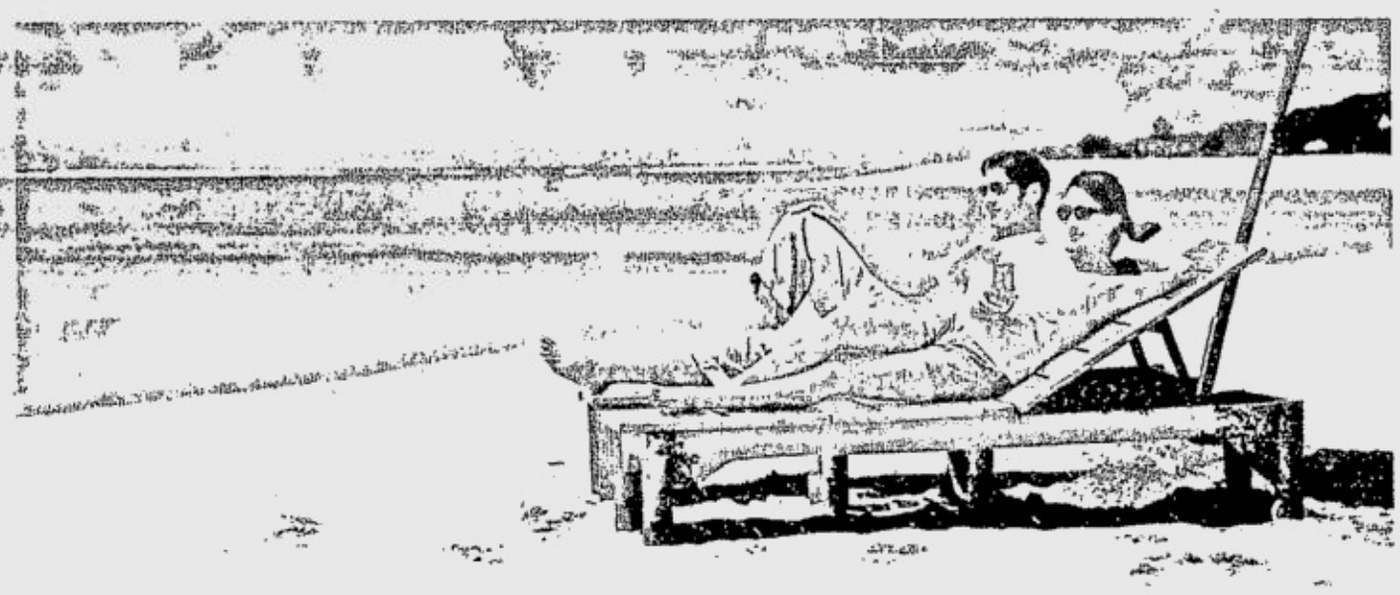

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Milestones

DIAZ-EVANGELISTA

Marlon O. Diaz, son of **Natividad Diaz,** exchanged vows recently with **Leny V. Evangelista,** daughter of **Henry** and **Herminia Evangelista,** at Our Lady of Light Parish, Cainta, Rizal.

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700 young people are walking for Mary

SEVEN HUNDRED YOUNG PEOple are expected to walk at 7 a.m. on Oct. 22 from Brittany Bay to the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Posadas Village, Muntinlupa.

Couple Laurie and Ronnie Javier will lead the youth in this moving event that is part of the year-long celebration of the 25th anniversary of the shrine.

The youth, from various walks of life but belonging to the shrine's parish, regularly met to come up with an activity that would enable them to honor our Blessed Mother on this special milestone. With abundant youthful energy and creativity, the group came up with the event called "Walk with Mary."

The morning activity will include an exhibition of wake-up cheers and prayer chants. The young people will pray the rosary and sing lively Marian songs during the walk.

The P10 registration fee will go to the Skills and Training Livelihood Center.

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

Feast day

The 173rd feast day of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal will be marked on Nov. 27, the day in 1830 when the Virgin appeared to Sister Catherine Laboure in the chapel of her convent.

Our Lady appeared standing on a globe, her feet crushing a serpent. In her hand was a smaller globe said to "represent the world and each person in particular." Dazzling rays of light emanated from her jeweled fingers, symbols of the graces which would be bestowed on all who asked for them, received from Jesus through the intercession of Mary. Completing the figure was the inscription: "O Mary conceived without sin, Pray for us who have recourse to thee."

The gold globe in her hand vanished and Our Lady's hands were lowered although remaining outstretched under the weight of the treasures of graces obtained through her intercession.

Then Mary spoke to Catherine: "Have a medal struck upon this model. Those who wear it will receive great graces, especially if they wear it round their necks."

The vision then seemed to turn to show the reverse of the medal: the letter "M" from which arose a cross with a bar at its base; below the monogram were twin hearts—the Sacred Heart of Jesus crowned with thorns and the Immaculate Heart of Mary pierced with a sword. Twelve stars representing the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles and all of us in modern times encircled the image.

The Novena Masses will begin on Nov. 18, 6 p.m., at the shrine and end on Nov. 26. The fiesta on Nov. 27 will be preceded by a grand procession on Nov. 26, 4 p.m. Pilgrims who stay the night at the shrine grounds will get breakfast at 7 a.m. on Nov. 27. The concelebrated Mass will be at 6 p.m.

FILIPINO visionary and healer Carmelo Cortez prays over the chaplain of Our Lady of Ocotlan in Ocotlan, Mexico.

BISHOPS from different nations at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal during the 40th World Meeting of Families

Eucharistic congress

The Diocese of Malolos will hold its Diocesan Eucharistic Congress on Nov. 5 at the University of Regina Carmeli (URC) in Catmon, Malolos.

There will be a High Mass in the morning followed by a Eucharistic procession from the URC gym to the Immaculate Conception Cathedral.

Invited to the Eucharistic celebration are Archbishop Carmelo Morelos, Archbishop Diosdado Talamayan, Bishop Teodoro Bacani and Bishop Sofronio Bancud.

Filipino visionary Carmelo Cortez, who gave us this information, called me from the United States to tell me that the chaplain of Our Lady of Ocotlan Shrine in Ocotlan, Mexico, asked Carmelo to heal him. Our Lady of Ocotlan appeared to Juan Diego Bernardino in 1541 and left her imprint on a burnt tree.

DEVOTEES pray to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.

Seminar

A Marian Encounter Seminar will be held 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Oct. 23, at the Catholic Renewal Center, 55 Pura Building, Moses Hall, Scout Santiago cor. Scout Rallos, Quezon City (at the back of Saint Paul the Apostle Church), along Timog Avenue, Quezon City.

Topics and speakers are: Fr. Louie Niez, Perpetual Virginity and the Immaculate Conception; Msgr. Bong Lo, The Assumption; and Fr. Aloysius Aliño, Mother of God.

Father Efren de Guzman will officiate at the Holy Mass. Call the M.O.M secretariat for further details at 7438729 (Sis. Luz Uzabal).

Marian exhibit

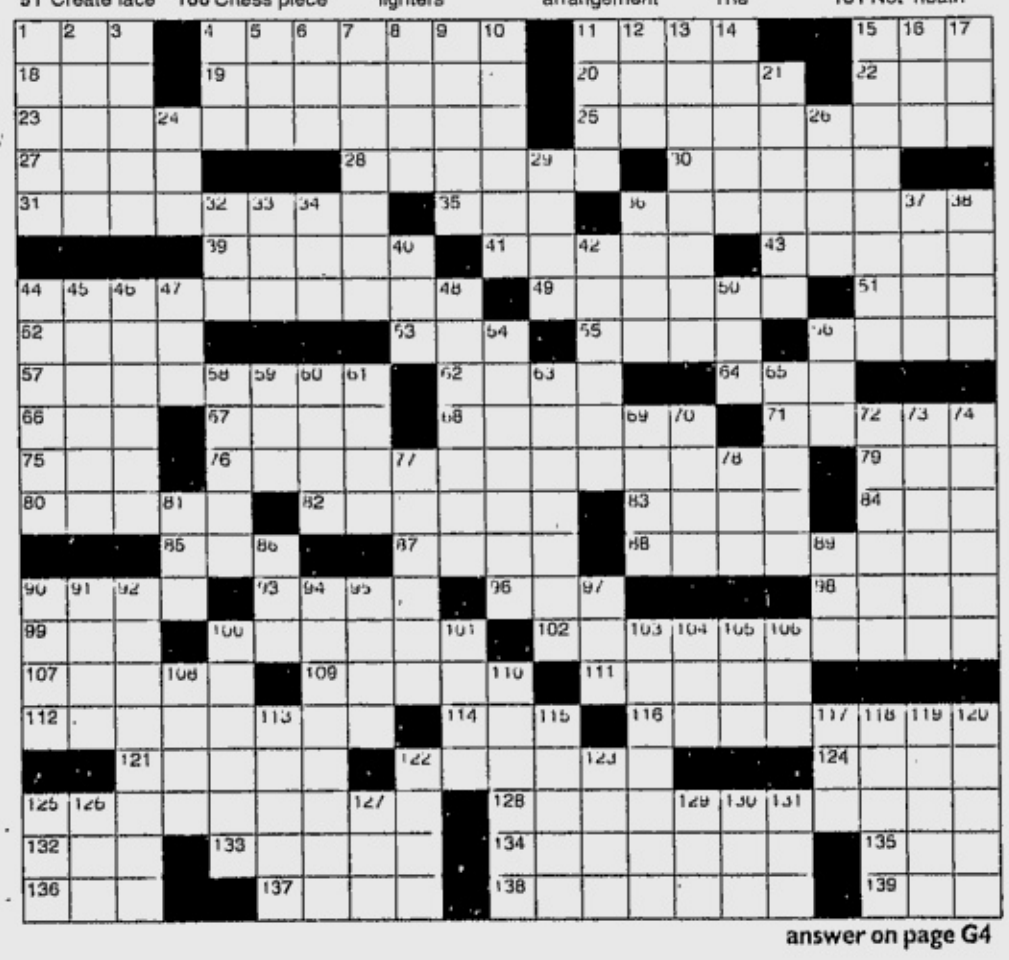
The Shrine of St. Anthony de Padua in Pila, Laguna, is holding an exhibit of Marian images until Oct. 31. Every Tuesday, people come for the 5:30 p.m. Mass to ask St. Anthony de Padua to heal them and help with their financial problems.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo — **TREATMENT**

ACROSS
1 Zig's partner
4 NutraSweet rival
11 Jokes
15 Novelist Levin
18 Suffix with Brooklyn
19 They're served in boats
20 City in Nebraska
22 Negatives
23 Beautify director Marshall?
25 Give the slip to singer Hill?
27 Leaning Tower town
28 Reviled, with "at"
30 Mill input
31 Do surgery on boxer Tyson?
35 Silt
36 Release humorist Rogers?
39 Aplomb
41 — Gras
43 Charter
44 Give birth to journalist Thompson?
49 Fedexed, e.g.
51 Create lace
52 Italian 123-Down
53 Sonny boy
55 Nero's 255
56 They play at Shea
57 Put colonist Standish on TV?
62 "Nah!"
64 Banqueted
66 VCR brand
67 Egypt's lifeline
68 Hullabaloo
71 At the ready
75 Performed
76 Call golfer Nicklaus?
79 Santa —, CA
80 Navigate
82 Stick (to)
83 Mayberry boy
84 Nametags
85 British bathroom
87 Baseball's Hershiser
88 Put singer Boone on his feet?
90 Radio designation
93 Worn out
96 Put in stitches
98 Central African river
99 Zodiac member
100 Chess piece
102 Clone tycoon Gates?
107 Caribbean scuba spot
109 Highway markers
111 Ryan of "Love Story"
112 Vigorously clean TV host Leno?
114 Patterned after
116 Support comic Wilson?
121 Court event
122 Ovid's "and others"
124 "Yeow!"
125 Cite slugger McGwire?
128 Fail to see painter O'Keeffe?
132 Psychic's gift
133 French composer Erik
134 Off base with consent
135 Lofty trains
136 — Moines
137 Millipede's many
138 Teasing type
139 Coloring stuff

DOWN
1 Big name in lighters
2 Book — (make travel plans)
3 Ninnies
4 LAPD title
5 Sniff around
6 Indy circuit
7 Hillary climbed it
8 Simone or Foch
9 Jeans fabric
10 Haven
11 Medal metal
12 Latin I verb
13 Appliance that might use propane
14 "The Jungle Book" tiger — Khan
15 Kick off
16 Go bad
17 Bonfire remnant
21 Off-track
24 Khaki
26 "... even — speak"
29 Mild cheese
32 Speed abbr.
33 Debt memo
34 Blood relatives
36 Abbr. on a bank door
37 Aspiring atty.'s exam
38 Allows
40 Sniggler's catch
42 Simple flower arrangement
44 Goatees, e.g.
45 Draw out
46 Chafe
47 Meadow male
48 Cattleman
50 A Gabor sister
54 Actress Del Rio
56 Blokes
58 Foreword
59 Be abed
60 Ex-governor Grasso
61 Apple core bit
63 Having a wood siding
65 Coin look-alike
69 Spanish eyes
70 Spellbound
72 A Chinese capital
73 Warts —
74 Soft hue
77 Particle of light
78 Spy org.
81 "Nightmare" street
86 Sakal sash
89 Make a knight
90 "Dear me!"
91 Cougar or Sable, for short
92 "I Can't Help Myself" group, with "The"
94 Increase
95 Tar's cry
97 Seek the favor of
100 Coddles
101 — moss
103 Lacking a foundation
104 Actress Arthur
105 Fond du —, WI
106 Caribou kin
108 Actor Reynolds
110 Apply suddenly, as brakes
113 NBA star Mashburn
115 Dress design
117 On behalf of
118 Sledded Olympics-style
119 In a very unfriendly way
120 Stage
122 Barely makes, with "out"
123 Dot in the sea
125 Proof-ending abbr.
126 Application
127 Semi
129 Young lady
130 First mate?
131 Not 'neath



answer on page G4

Little sister resents 'ate'

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

DEAR EMILY,

I consider myself successful in my schooling. I've been consistently on the Dean's List and passed the mind-draining screening of accountancy students in our university.

I'm already in third year, and have two years of college left. I'm planning to go to law school after graduation with the approval of my parents. They are happy with my achievements especially after I topped the Civil Service Subprofessional Examination in our region. They are proud of me.

I thought all my loved ones would be happy about this until I got a text message from my sister.

My sister, who is a fourth-year high school student, had a horrible fight with our dad and he hit her. My poor sister poured out all her hatred for our dad's treatment of her.

Then she told me about the grudge she harbored towards me. She said I was always the "*paborito, laging tama, matalino, mas matimbang, laging bida.*" She added that she was always jealous of me.

I am aware that both my parents favor me over my brother and younger sister. What's wrong with meeting my parents' expectations and standards? I know I have set a high standard for a good daughter that my other siblings find difficult to reach.

I'm really concerned about my sister because she has the tendency to be rebellious. We're not that close, but I'm reaching out to her. What shall I do?

JAYCEE,
THE PERFECT DAUGHTER

Your sister is at that age when everything is either black or white. No amount of cajoling and reaching out can overcome your differences. You just have to keep on being her friend.

Nobody can blame your siblings for feeling like outcasts in your family. Don't you have an idea or know how difficult it is to be with a perfect sibling who has set such a high standard?

Ain't nothin' you can do about it! Just be yourself and maintain your level-headedness and generosity toward your siblings. The tallest bamboo bends the lowest, so goes an old saying. Shower them with kindness and help them every which way you can.

Give them a chance to understand that what you're doing is not for today but for the future, and that your success eventually will also be theirs.

Be the bridge between your siblings and your parents since they all look up to you. Make your parents understand that their three children cannot all be wonderful and great. Plan activities where you know you won't be good at but your siblings would shine. Allow them to see parts of you that are not perfect.

Let your siblings "gloat" at some of your weaknesses—if only to make them feel good occasionally. It's not a healthy option but do it, if only to give your life a semblance of normalcy. Give them a chance to accept that you are not really perfect.

Hey, you can bend, can't you?

Happy ending

Just when you thought this column only gets tales of agony, we get this note of thanks that is most welcome:

Dear Emily,

I didn't realize how popular your column was until now. The girl cousin read my letter and your advice early Sunday morning ("He loves me, he loves me not," Oct. 2) and immediately showed it to her cousin who tracked me down by calling all my former friends.

He then had five dozen roses delivered around 10 a.m. Monday, with a note to meet him for lunch at noon at a plush restaurant in Makati. The food and service were excellent but we were unable to eat much. He was there around 11 a.m. and I came half past. We both came early because I guess we were too excited to finally meet.

I won't bother you with details but we will be together this Christmas in a lovely city abroad. He made me promise I would never leave him again. And he promised he would make me happy and take care of me. He never said a lot but action spoke louder than words. Ms Emily, I am beholden to you forever.

ARIANNE

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday-Friday on dwBR 104.3 FM.

Anniversary of Fatima apparition marked today

THE 88TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE last apparition of Our Lady of Fatima will be marked at 12 noon today at 5/F Rustan's Makati, as part of the Portuguese Festival in Manila.

The recitation of the Holy Rosary will be held at 11 a.m.

A replica of Our Lady of Fatima had been enthroned in the place since Oct. 4, official start of the festival.

Our Lady of Fatima started appearing on May 13, 1917, to three young shepherds. In one of her apparitions, she told the children a three-part secret that was not to be revealed until she authorized it. She also promised to perform a miracle in October of that year.

On her last apparition on October 13, she identified herself as Our Lady of the Rosary and the miracle of the Sun was performed before 70,000 pilgrims.

Two parts of the secret were revealed in 1942, which were the end of World War I and the eruption of the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia. The third and last part of the secret was revealed in 2000. It referred to the assassination attempt on the Pope in 1981.

Our Lady of Fatima promised that the whole world would be in peace, and that many souls would go to Heaven if her requests were obeyed.

The Catholic Church had endorsed the Fatima message since 1930, with five successive Popes publicly indicating approval of the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima and her message. Two Popes went to Fatima on Pilgrimage, with the late John Paul II going there twice, in 1982 and 1991.

Fatima is now called "The Altar of the World."

Milestones

From page E1

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the INQUIRER, P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.

SOLIS-ROBINSON

Dominic Tan Solis, son of **Rafael Jr.** and **Magdalena** (née Tan) **Solis**, will marry **Sharina Paculanan Robinson**, daughter of **Diego** and **Fai** (née Paculanan) **Robinson**, on Oct. 20, 2:30 p.m., at the Mother of Perpetual Help Parish (Redemptorist Church). Reception will be at Grand Regal Hotel. **Ronan Opiña** designed the bridal gown.

SILANG-AQUINO

Rogelio A. Silang Jr., son of **Rogelio** and **Evangeline Silang**, will wed **Melissa E. Aquino**, daughter of **Juanito** and **Brenda Aquino**, on Dec. 18, at the National Shrine of St. Michael and the Archangels, Puerta Real Gardens, Intramuros. **Leonard Co** designed the bridal gown.

SAMALA-CUA

Dr. **Renato Ramon V. Samala**, son of **Ramon** and **Teresita Samala**, will marry lawyer **Anna Maria Theresa V. Cua**, daughter of lawyers Epifanio and **Wilma Cua**, on Oct. 16, at the San Agustin Church in Intramuros, Manila. Reception will follow at the Sunset Pavilion, Westin Philippine Plaza.

CANCINO-BERGONIO

Adrian Cancino, son of Mr. and Ms **Adriano Cancino**, and **Liz Bergonio**, daughter of engineer and Ms **Aniceto Bergonio**, were married Oct. 15 at Santuario de San Jose, East Greenhills. A dinner reception followed at the Discovery Suites. The bride wore a strapless white organza and satin gown with beaded bodice and train designed by the Bridal Factory.

BRIZUELA-MENDOZA

Ilan Brizuela, son of Rico and **Norma Brizuela**, will wed **Haznah Mendoza**, daughter of lawyer **Hiram** and **Arlene Memdoza**, on Oct. 28 at La Luz Resort, San Juan, Batangas. **Corinne Mimi Samson** designed the bridal gown.

ABES-ANDRES

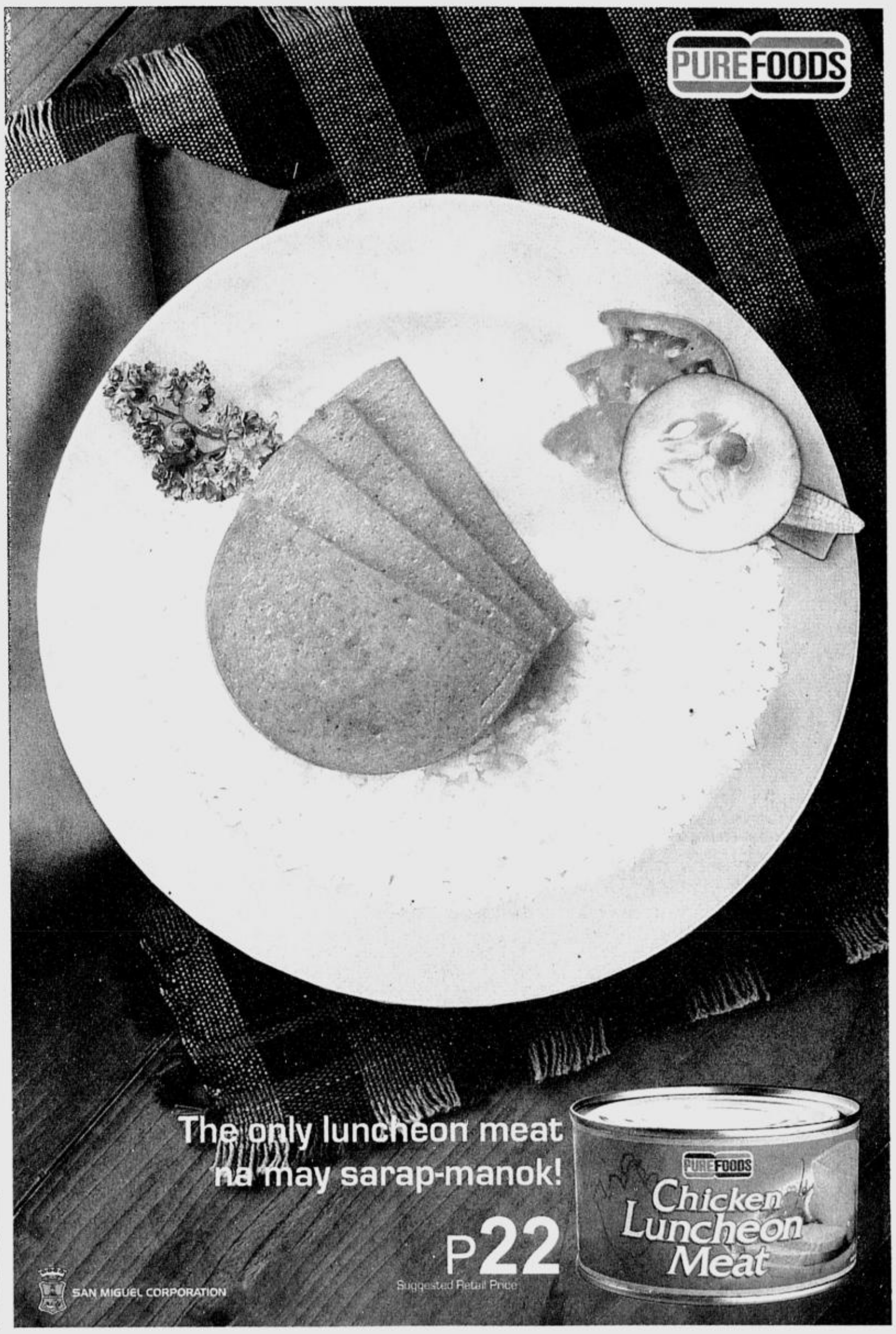
Engineer **Arvin Agcaoili Abes**, son of lawyer and Ms **Saturnino Abes**, will marry **Jerilou dela Cruz Andres**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Jeremias Andres**, on Oct. 22, 9:30 a.m., at the Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City. Reception will follow at the New World Hotel, Makati Avenue, Makati City.

MENDOZA-ALUMNO

Michael Mendoza, son of **Mario** and **Virginia Mendoza**, will exchange vows with **Hannah Alumno**, daughter of **Renato** and **Herminia Alumno**, on Oct. 22, at the Sta. Rosa de Lima Parish Church, Laguna. Reception will follow at La Joya Clubhouse.

DE LA CRUZ GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Siblings **A, B, C, D, E** and **F de la Cruz** came home with their families to celebrate their parents' 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 12. Tatay **Dading** and Nanay **Marichu** were overjoyed to see their children; children-in-law **Ebel, Rudy, Emma** and **Bembot**; and grandchildren **RJ, CJ, DJ** and **JD**.



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FAST FEAST

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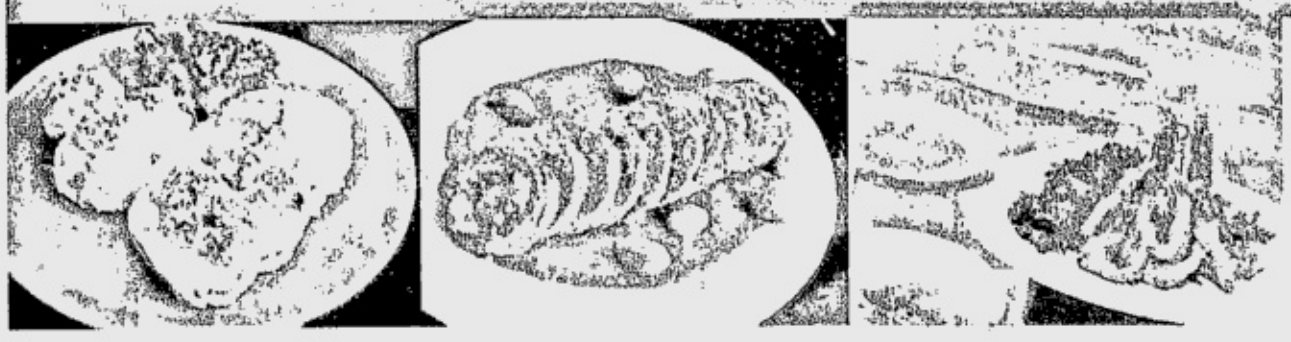
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Guest editor Michaela Fenix

The food lover forever in search of good food at affordable prices finds the perfect guidebook in this special section of Sunday Lifestyle. Prepared by guest editor Michaela Fenix, who also wrote most of the articles, the issue explores the best-kept culinary nooks and crannies around the Metro, showing that for all foodies, food is everyone's common ground, a universal experience.



WHAT'S INSIDE

SUNDAY Sidcor market /F2

CANNED yummy goodness /F2

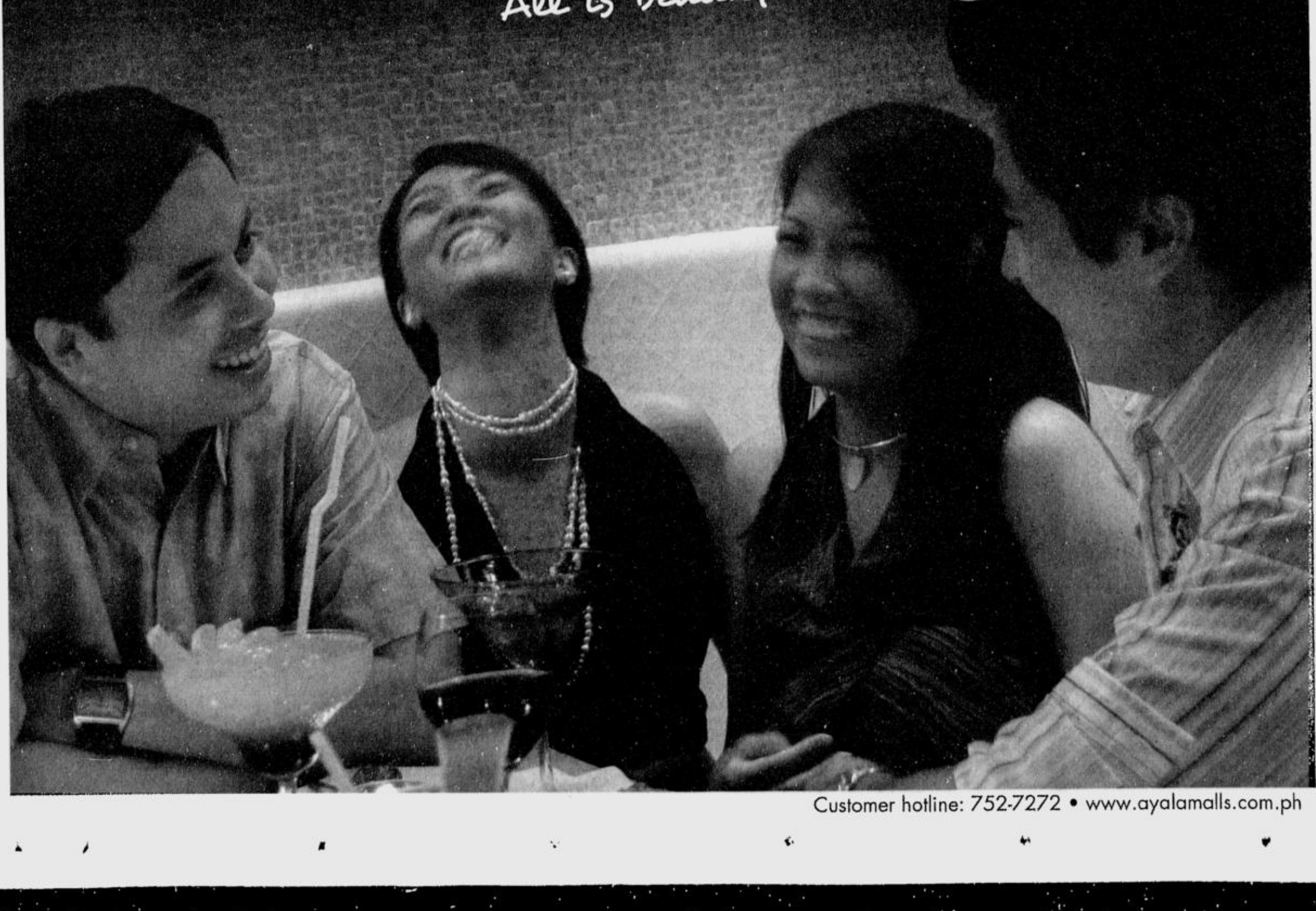
SUKI Market's Chinese treats /F6

CLEAN-OUT-YOUR-REF party /F7

PREPPED and primed dishes /F8

They started out in the same ad agency in Makati 8 years ago. Now, Alex is a Creative Director. Mitzi manages her own fashion label. Roy runs a web-based company of his own. While Ella's preparing to be a full-time mom. They may have gone their separate ways, but never do they fail to meet up at Greenbelt for dinners and to share life tales.

All is beautiful here. AYALA GREENBELT



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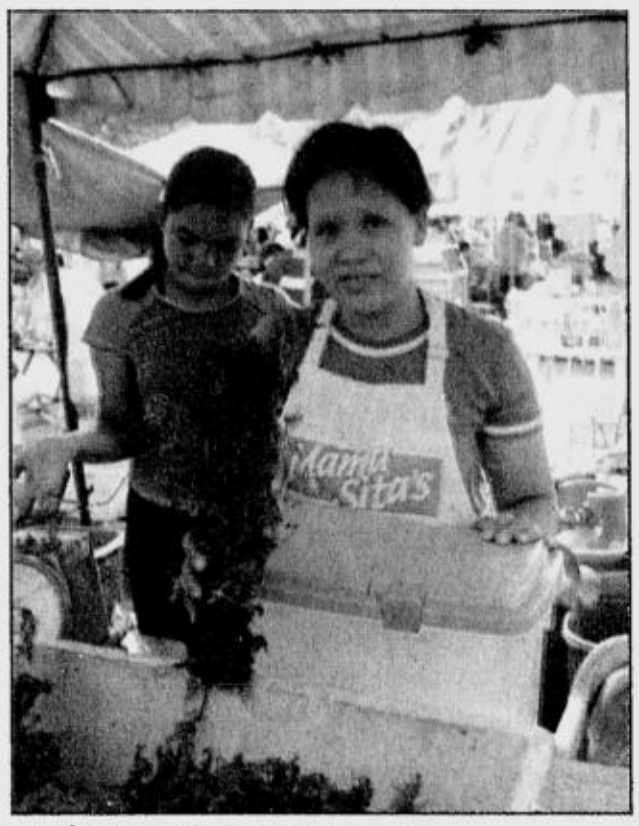
YOUNG vendor and Nilasing na Hipon



PAKÔ or fiddlehead fern from Quezon

FOOD-TO-GO and ready-to-eat

Sunday best at Sidcor

A weekend market at the Lung Center provides the best food staples at easy prices

By Michaela Fenix

SUNDAY IS ALWAYS MARKET day in my household. That means Sunday lunch is when we cook the best and the freshest buy.

The menu hardly varies. Clam soup flavored with ginger, grilled seafood, seaweed salad, salmon sashimi, a meat dish that can be beef steak (*bistek*), chicken *adobo*, or *tokwa't baboy*.

If the marketing man woke up late, lunch would be way past noon. But for the past months, Sunday lunch has always been early. We still market for the week, but the Sunday menu is from another market, Sidcor, which takes place only on Sundays on the grounds of the Lung Center. Several tents are set up in the parking area selling both food and dry goods such as clothes and home décor.

CALUMPIT *longganisa* vendor

The first stop is always to order pork barbecue. Ineng's, that now famous barbecue (shall we darè call it) company, has a good system. No lines. Order what you want and come back for it. A slip of paper records the order which is surrendered as soon as you collect. We used to order 12 pieces (the less-pork sort), pay the P15 per stick, and then move on. But suddenly, the price went up to P17 and the marketing man who thinks the P2 increase too arbitrary now buys from another barbecue stall. He thinks the quality is as good.

Deep-fried

Next stop, the deep-fried stall where the oil in the wok boils constantly. This is where the *nilasing na hipon* is sold per *guhit* (100 g) costing P60. If it is really the local drunken shrimp, then the pieces should have been marinated in alcohol, mainly gin, then covered with batter, fried in hot oil. The pieces emerge so crunchy and buyers find it difficult not to pinch some of it before getting home. A plastic container of vinegar doesn't really add anything to the shrimp. Better to do your own dip especially if you have real vinegar spiked mildly with garlic or hotly with chili.

The smell of fish being grilled and the smoke that goes with it is all around the weekend market. Huge mud fish charring, tuna belly releasing some of its fat, *tilapia* and catfish smelling perfectly grilled. No need to sweat before hot charcoal and let all that smoke get into your hair. The next question is, what should go with grilled fish?

Grilled fish partners can be *bagoong* with cut tomatoes, *buro* (fermented rice with shrimp) on *mustasa* (mustard leaves), chili and *wansuey* (coriander) with a bit of vinegar. My choice is always *ararosep* or *lato* (grape-like seaweed) and *pakô* (fiddlehead fern) mixed with cut tomatoes with a Filipino dressing of vinegar, salt, crushed peppercorn and a little sugar. Seaweed helps with one's iodine lack. *Pakô* is a luxury because this grows in the mountain, and at Sidcor every vendor who sells the fern says it comes from Lucban at the foot of Mount Banahaw in Quezon province. Overheard was this plaint from a buyer who told the vendor that she poured hot water on the *pakô* and it came out "so *durog*!" The vendor looked too bewildered to help rectify her crushed-fern dilemma.

RECEIVING payment for fish *inihaw*

Meat

Meat is usually cooked at home, but every now and then we try other dishes offered in Sidcor. The crispy *pata* and *lechon kawali* at one stall always looks inviting. The *embutido* vendor says her ground pork roulade is the best. Another stall sells roast beef with gravy and mashed potato with it. *Morcon, dinuguan, menudo* and *bopis* offer variety to our Sunday menu.

There are some stalls that display their cooked food in aluminum pots, *carinderia*-style, but there are those in classier chaffing dishes and Teflon woks.

For dessert there's a quite passable fruit salad, but then I'm biased because I like my mother's recipe best. There are many fruit stalls. There are also pastries but the better buys are the different rice cakes, like the cassava cake with a bit of *leche flan* on top. That's not as good, though, as the *sapin-sapin* we had in Bulacan with equal layers of *leche flan, halayang ube* and *malagkit* (egg custard, *ube* jam and sticky rice).

We drive home with the smell of cooked food dominating the car's interior. Once home, it will be just a matter of releasing the food from its paper or plastic containers, sliding these out onto platters, then calling everyone to eat.

For a party, Jay Gamboa, Myrna Segismundo and Jessie Sincioco give their suggestions on how to dress up certain Sidcor buys. See page F8.

Can-do canned goodness

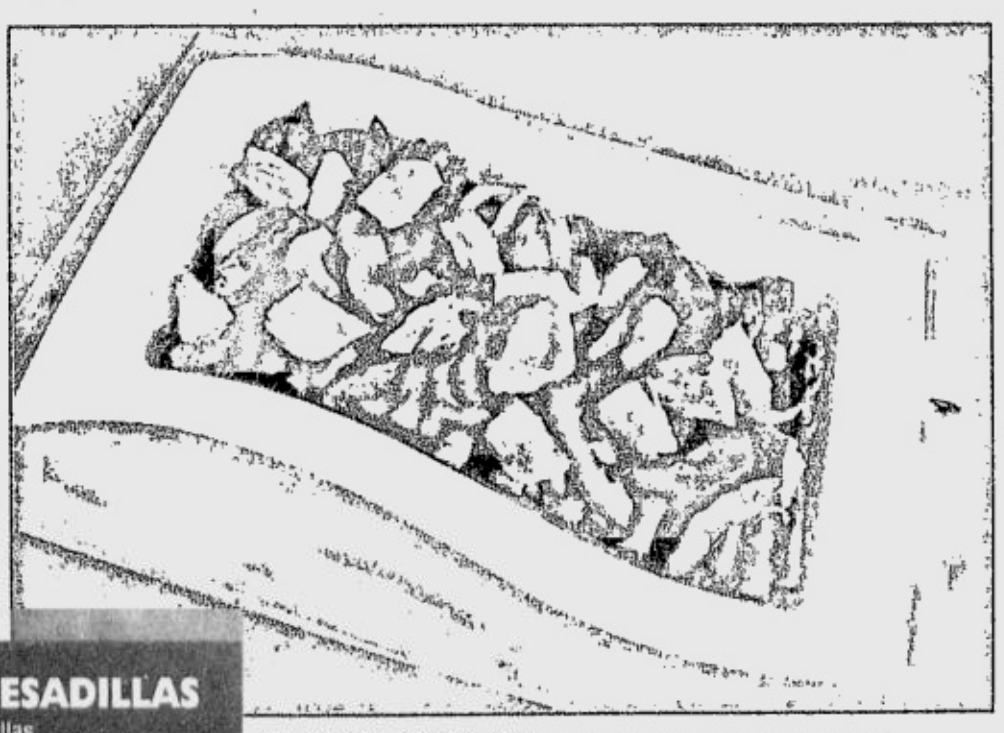
Spice up convenience food with these suggestions

SOME PEOPLE MAY have the time to start from scratch, to do their sauces and soups the old way. But in today's rush-rush lifestyle, most people are simply pressed for time. Thus, the relevance of convenience food—those instant noodles, pre-mixes and canned goods.

A fast feast can be done by just opening a can. Or two or more cans. Think of pork and beans added to boiled tender pork leg pieces topped with fried bacon, baked a bit, and you have Party Pork and Beans.

And why not slip out some Chinese imported cans of pork leg with mushrooms and chestnuts into a serving bowl, add boiled *pechay* and heat in the microwave? Voila! Pata tim, your style.

Here are some dish suggestions from two food corporations that sell convenience food in cans. One sells fish in a can, the other sells meat. Century Canning Corporation through Gigi Angkaw, culinary directress, and San Miguel Purefoods Company through Helene Pontejos, assistant vice president and manager, devised these recipes where the main ingredient comes from the can.



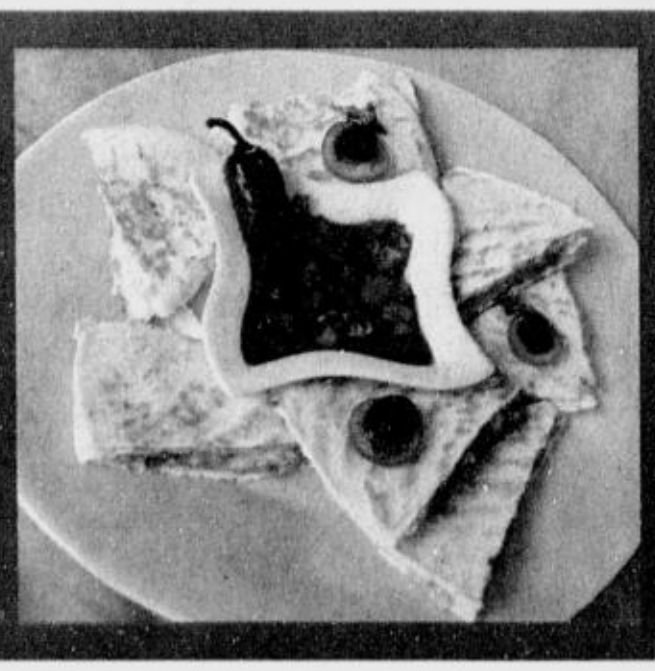
SISIG PARCELS

1 can (150 g) Purefoods Sizzling Delights Sisig
½ c chopped onions
1 egg white
25 pcs large molo wrappers
Magnolia Nutri-Oil for deep-frying

In a bowl, combine sisig and onions. Mix well. Spoon 1 tsp of the mixture on each molo wrapper. Moisten edges of the wrapper with egg white then fold one edge over another to seal in filling. Do the same with the rest.

Deep fry pieces in Magnolia Nutri-Oil until golden brown. May serve with Purefoods Supremo Vinegar as dipping sauce.

Makes 25 pieces.



TUNA QUESADILLAS

8 pcs flour tortillas
1 ½ c grated quick-melt cheese
1 can (180 g) Century Tuna Flakes Hot and Spicy, drained
chili powder

Lay each tortilla flat on work surface. Place grated cheese on the half side. Top cheese with tuna and sprinkle with chili powder. Fold over. Do the same with the rest.

Cook each folded tortilla over a hot grill or in a heavy pan until cheese melts. Cut into wedges. Serve hot with picante (hot) or guacamole (avocado) sauce.

Makes 32 wedges.

PHOTOS: ROGER CARPIO

TUNA AND ASPARAGUS STIR-FRY

2 tbsp soy sauce
1 tbsp sugar
1 tbsp lemon juice
1 tsp cornstarch
1 can (184 g) Century Tuna Chunks in Vegetable Oil, drained, reserve oil
1 tsp chopped ginger
1 tsp minced garlic
1 medium onion, sliced
½ c soaked then sliced shiitake mushrooms
2 c asparagus niblets (about 2-inch cuts)
½ c red bell pepper strips

Combine soy sauce, sugar, lemon juice and cornstarch. Set soy sauce mix aside.

Heat oil from tuna. Sauté ginger, garlic and onion. Add mushrooms, asparagus and red bell pepper. Add in tuna. Stir in soy sauce mix. Cook for 1 minute.

Makes 4-6 servings.

Can-do canned goodness

From page F2

CHICKEN PESTO BRUSCHETTA

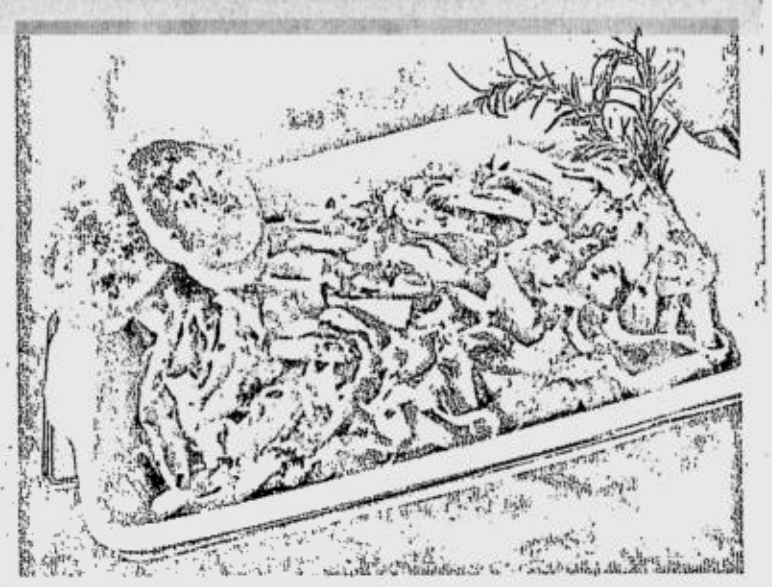
½ c pesto sauce (store-bought)
¼ c Magnolia Gold Butter, softened
200 g (2 cans) Purefoods Chicken Chunks in water, drained
½ c native ripe tomatoes, chopped
1 tbsp fresh basil leaves, julienne
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
salt and pepper to taste
20 pcs Melba toast or French bread slices
Grated Parmesan cheese

Combine ¼ cup pesto sauce and Magnolia Gold Butter. Spread on one side of the French bread slices. Set aside.

Toss chicken chunks in remaining pesto sauce. Top onto bread slices.

Toss tomatoes in basil and olive oil. Season with salt and pepper. Place on top of chicken chunks. Sprinkle grated cheese on top.

Makes 20 pieces.



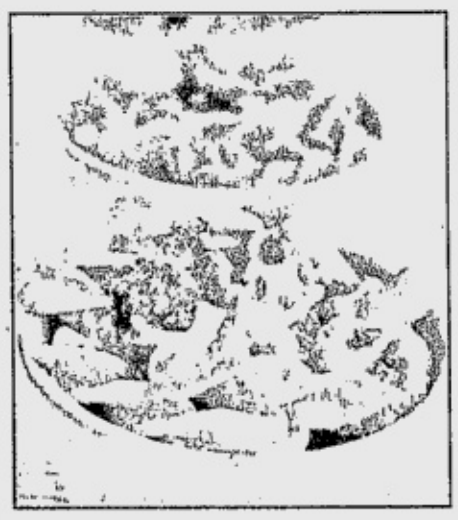
TUNA FETTUCINI BAKE

250 g fettuccini (cooked according to package direction)
¼ c butter
2 tsp minced garlic
½ c chopped onions
1 c tomato sauce
1 pack powdered mushroom soup, dissolved in 1½ c milk
2 cans (184 g each) Century Tuna Chunks in Water, drained
1 tsp dried oregano
¼ c chopped parsley
½ c grated cheese
Preheat oven to 350° F.

While cooking the pasta, sauté garlic and onion in butter. Add tomato sauce and mushroom soup mixture, stirring continuously until mixture is thick and smooth. Mix in tuna, oregano and parsley, Stir well then remove from heat.

Drain pasta then place in an ovenproof container. Pour cooked sauce over pasta and mix thoroughly. Top with cheese. Bake for 20 minutes.

Makes eight servings.



CREAMY CHUNKEE PASTA

250 g spiral pasta or elbow macaroni
2 tbsp vegetable oil
1/3 c chopped white onions
1 can (190 g) Purefoods Chunkee Corned Beef
1 c tomato sauce
½ c all-purpose cream
1 c grated Magnolia Quickmelt Cheese
½ c green peas
Ground black pepper

Cook pasta according to package directions.

Heat oil in a saucepan. Sauté onions and corned beef. Stir in tomato sauce, cream and cheese. Allow to simmer for five minutes. Stir in peas then season with pepper.

Toss cooked pasta in prepared sauce. Transfer to a serving dish and serve.

Makes five to six servings.

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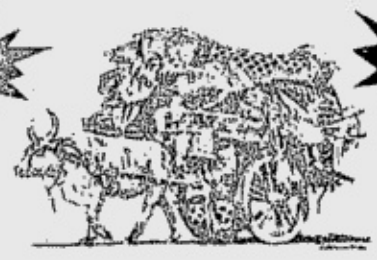

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The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) opens its doors to the changes in our economy with the **31st Philippine Business Conference and Expo (PBC&E).** With this year's theme "Crossing Boundaries" the PBC&E seeks to introduce developments to Philippine industries and business sectors that will enable local private businesses to be highly competitive in the global scene.

The night's hosts Lyn Ching Pascual and Cris Friañeza

The 4-day conference led by Ambassador Donald Dee, chaired by George Siy, was graced by many leaders including Mayor Lito Atienza, Ms. International Precious Lara Quigaman, Minister Bakrie of Indonesia, Mr. Meattle of India, Atty. Oscar Orbos, Bongbong Marcos, Winnie Monsod, Gov. LRay Villafuerte, Lyn Ching Pascual, Peter Wallace, Dondi Mapa, Vivian Yuchengco, Sen. Kiko Pangilinan, Sec. Peter Favila, Sec. Margarito Teves, Sen. Mar Roxas, Ernest Cu of SPI and Craig Reines of Teletech. As summed up by the Ambassador, the conference is geared torwards a more business-opportunity approach, providing new highlights like video clips, debates, and off-site tours of prominent outsource centers, such as People Support and SPI. The conference was kicked off with a fun golf tournament for delegates, spectacular dances by the Halili Cruz dancers, parades from the provincial chambers and continued with many informative lectures on pressing business issues. The main social networking event was the Gala night and awarding ceremonies held last October 12. PCCI was honored to have the newest Marie France endorser and one of television's most versatile hosts with her beauty, wit and charm, **Ms. Lyn Ching Pascual** as the main host of the gala night with co-hosts from the PCCI Mr. Cris Friañeza and Mr. Lito Colona.

Ambassador Donald Dee Of The PCCI, Lyn Ching Pascual, PBC&E Chairman George Siy and his wife Mrs. Mimi Siy.

Lyn was personally hand-picked by PCCI's top honchos to emcee their event for her wholesome image, endearing candidness and natural audience rapport. She is also a reflection that to welcome changes is a positive move as she amazed everyone with her beautiful transformation. Walking out from behind the stage in an elegant black cocktail gown and exchanging witty and entertaining banter with co-host Cris Friañeza, she simply replies to comments about her surprisingly slimmer, sexier figure and radiant look with a confident ***"Thanks to Marie France"*** quip. As a mother, wife and TV host, Lyn knows that improving oneself is a continuing activity and is well worth it.

Marie France endorser Lyn Ching Pascual.

And to show that businessmen don't just count numbers, the delegates unwound with music from the Spirit of '67, San Miguel Chorale, Eriz Cruz, Nolyn Cabahug and the String Quartet. The spectacular rendition of Traviata and the heartfelt performance honoring his father and mother from Tenor Eric Cruz drew much applause from the audience. The night was truly set for having fun, punctuated by amusing comments from the lively hosts.

Indeed, the theme of the night "making positive changes" was highly infectious all around. The delegates were treated to 3 days of updates, substantive information, and first class entertainment.

Mr. Siy PBC chairman, is currently the President of Face and Body Rejuvenation Center, which has Marie France Bodyline Int'l., Facial Care Centre, Svenson International and SkinLab under its wing. Mr. Siy espouses innovation, trend watching, and uncompromising belief in providing only the highest quality. The goal was to make over the conference for this year, making it possible for investors to get information and become informed and ready to enter promising businesses. Mr. Siy strongly believes that making these changes now is crucial in preparing the country for the inevitable challenges in the future.

Canon's New PIXMA Photo Printers Raise The Bar In Photo Printing.

For digital camera enthusiasts, the arrival of Canon's new PIXMA photo printers is more than good news. It's a dream come true. With the combination of Canon's 3 core technologies in printing, photography and copying, amateur and professional photographers alike can now achieve photo perfection in their very own backyard.

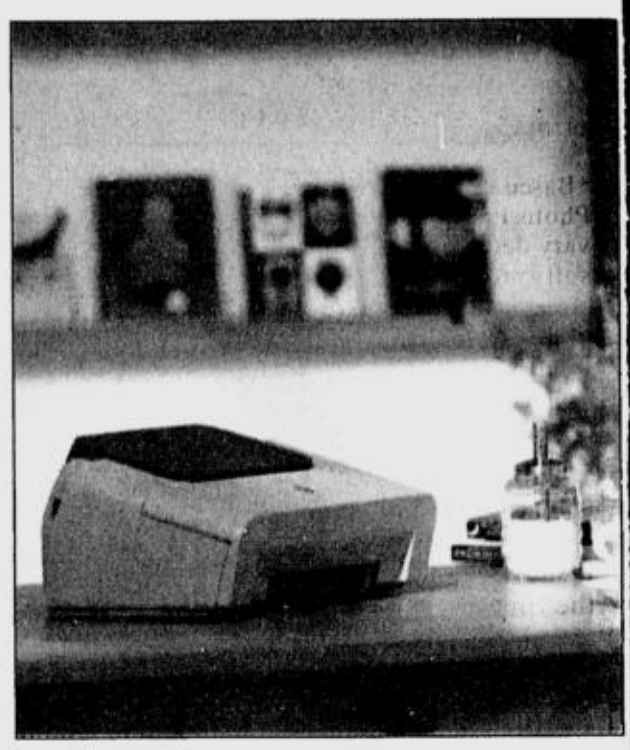
Canon's new line-up of PIXMA products comprises a total of 6 photo printers (Canon PIXMA iP1600, Canon PIXMA iP2200, Canon PIXMA iP4200, Canon PIXMA iP5200, Canon PIXMA iP5200R, and Canon PIXMA iP6600D) and 5 All-in-One (Canon PIXMA MP150, Canon PIXMA MP170, Canon PIXMA MP450, Canon PIXMA MP500 and Canon PIXMA MP800). Introduced around the globe in 2004, the original PIXMA printers won critical acclaim for its revolutionary Advanced Media Handling capabilities that placed it ahead of competition. Now, the new PIXMA line-up promises to take the photo printing experience even further, with new technologies that raise the bar of excellence in the realm of photo printing.

CANON PUSHES CONVENIENCE WITH ITS ADVANCED MEDIA HANDLING FEATURE

Present in the original PIXMA photo printers is the revolutionary Advanced Media Handling technology of Canon. And this distinct feature can still be found in the new range of PIXMA printers.

With the Auto Duplex Printing, the consumer will be able to print on both sides of the paper without having to turn it over manually. They will also be able to print professional-looking, borderless, double-sided photo albums with ease. The CD/DVD direct printing feature enables creation of labelling directly on printable CDs and DVDs. This makes it a breeze to identify the contents of the CDs or DVDs. The 2-Way Paper Feeding also makes it convenient to load two different sizes or types of paper simultaneously, reducing the hassle of changing papers.

Aside from these innovative technologies, each PIXMA photo printer has a distinctive feature that meets the consumer's demands:



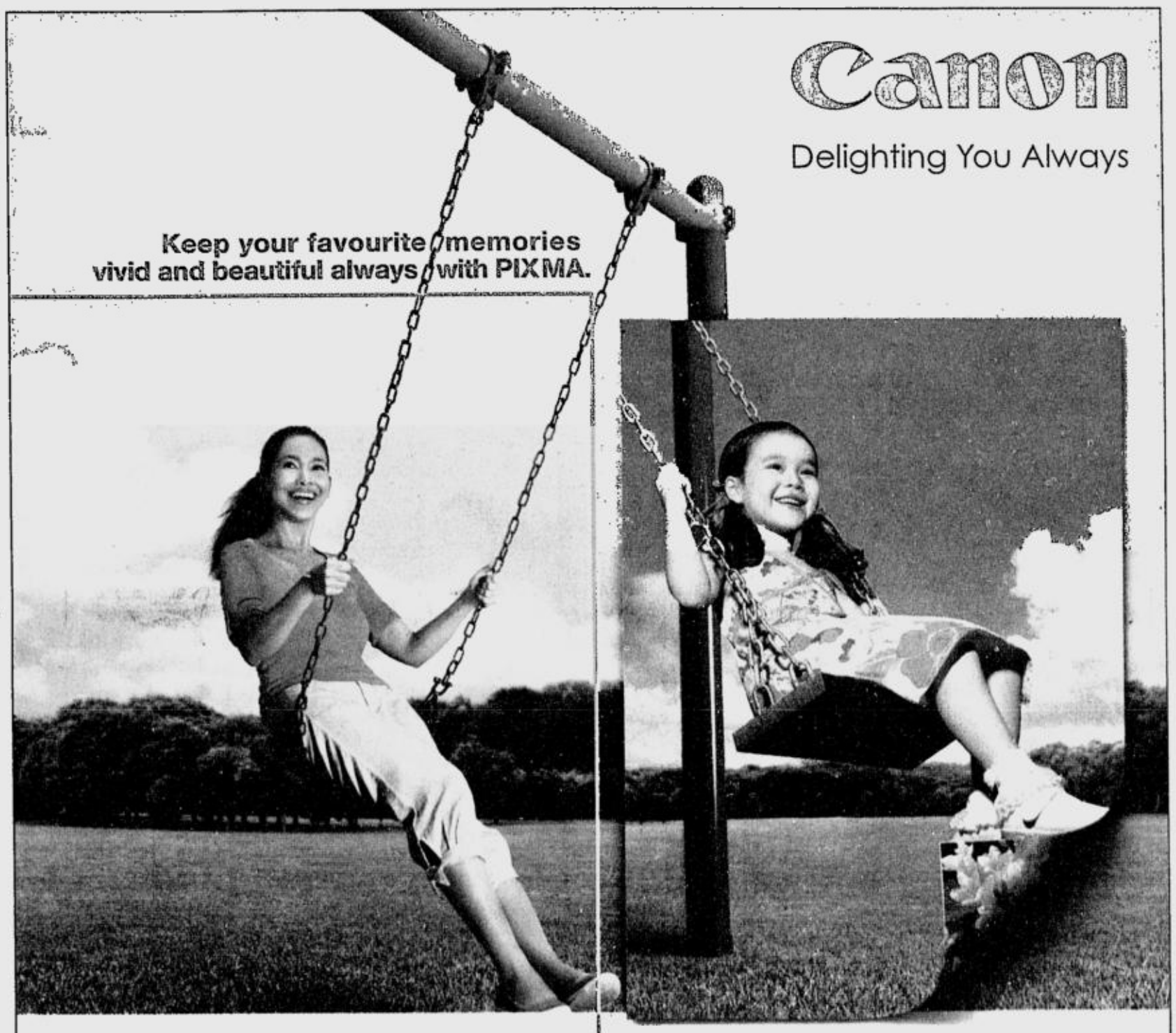
Canon PIXMA iP1600
Perfect for home users and students, the convenience of photo quality printing can now be experienced at home in an exceptional value.

Canon PIXMA iP4200 Photo Printer
A fully loaded photo printer that lets a consumer print long-lasting vivid pictures using individual ink tanks.

Canon PIXMA iP6600D Printer
This is a photo-printing powerhouse! With great quality and high-end convenience, utilizing a 3.5" color LCD viewer for easy photo direct printing. Features include image correction, image cropping, backlight correction— all functions of a photo lab or kiosk built right into the printer, requiring no PC assistance. Capable of printing two-sided photos so consumers can create cherished mini-photo albums with special Canon album kits.

CANON MOVES AHEAD IN MULTIFUNCTION MACHINES WITH PIXMA PHOTO ALL-IN-ONE

Canon's new PIXMA Photo All-In-One line offers something for everyone who's into multifunction machines that print high-quality photos. Along with being able to print, copy and scan a variety of documents and images, the PIXMA Photo All-In-One printers share Canon's commitment to photo perfection.



Every wonderful memory deserves to be preserved in its original glory. With PIXMA's advanced technologies, you get nothing less than the most vibrant and true-to-life quality prints. And with ChromaLife100, you can continue to enjoy the most beautiful photos for a lifetime!

Lab-quality photos printed at amazing speed with FINE™ technology

- Attain smooth, grain-free and vibrant-looking pictures with ink droplets as microscopic as 1 pl
- Expect ultra-fast printing speed due to high number of nozzles that can print over a significantly wider area in a single pass

FINE

Preserve your most cherished memories for life with new ChromaLife100 system

- Get more beautiful and more permanent images with advanced ChromaLife100 technology
- Enjoy optimal printing results when you combine a PIXMA printer (FINE™ technology) with genuine Canon ink and genuine Canon photo paper

ChromaLife 100

ADVANCED MEDIA HANDLING
2-Way Paper Feeding

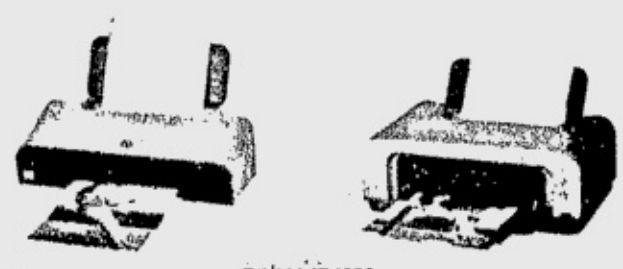
- Allows you to load both Auto Sheet Feeder and Paper Feed Cassette for high-volume printing
- Load different paper types in two separate feeders without the hassle of manually switching between them

Auto Duplex Printing & Copying

- Create professional-looking, double-sided documents and photo albums with ease
- Save time and money printing on both sides without the hassle of having to manually turn over your printouts

CD/DVD Direct Printing

- Print content listings or customise your designs directly on any CD or DVD with the built-in tray guide
- High-quality direct printing on surface of CD/DVD that lasts longer than ordinary sticker labels



PIXMA iP2200

- 2/5pl ink droplet size
- 4800 x 1200 dpi print resolution
- 55 secs. 4x6 borderless print speed

PIXMA iP4200

- 1/5pl ink droplet size
- 9600 x 2400 dpi print resolution
- 51 secs. 4x6 borderless print speed
- Advanced Media Handling

[1] Ink droplets can be placed with a pitch of 1/9600 inch at minimum.

[2] Based on default mode driver setting using Canon Photo Paper Plus Glossy Paper. Print speed may vary depending on system configuration, interface, software, document complexity, print mode, page coverage and type of paper used.

iP1000	iP1600	iP3000	iP4000	iP5000	iP5200	iP6600D	iP8500
• 4800 x 1200 dpi • 14/10 ppm (mono/color) • Borderless Printing	• 19/16 ppm mono/color • 4x6 borderless in 70 secs • 4800 x 1200 dpi	• 4800 x 1200 dpi • 22/15 ppm (mono/color) • Pictbridge • Advanced Media Handling	• 4800 x 1200 dpi • 25/17 ppm (mono/color) • Pictbridge • Advanced Media Handling	• 4800 x 1200 dpi • 25/17 ppm (mono/color) • Advanced Media Handling	• 30/24 ppm mono/color • 9600 x 2400 dpi • Advanced Media Handling	• 18/17 ppm mono/color • 9600 x 2400 dpi • Direct Printing Functions • Advanced Media Handling	• 4800 x 1200 dpi • 17/15 ppm (mono/color) • Pictbridge • Advanced Media Handling

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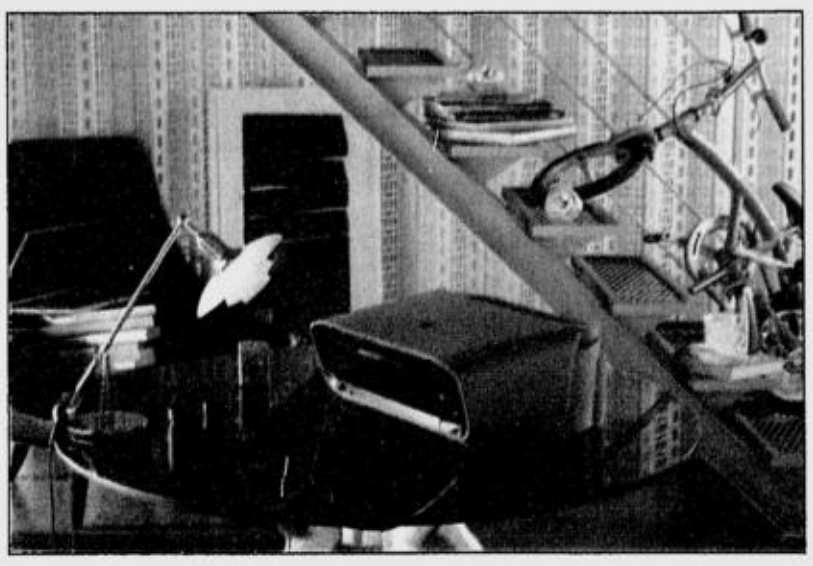
"The new PIXMA Photo All-In-One printers are an excellent option for users who want to be able to scan, print and copy, with the enhanced ability to print great photos," said Melvyn Ho, Vice President, Canon Singapore Pte. Ltd. "The printers can easily transit from home office usage to the family, and take full advantage of the technological advances Canon has pioneered, including the new Canon ChromaLife100 technology that can help to better preserve photos and the Canon FINE™ print head system, which Canon launched in 1999. With the Canon FINE™ print head system, customers can have borderless photolab quality prints in just 36 seconds."*

*Based on default mode driver setting using Canon Photo Paper Plus Glossy Paper. Print speed may vary depending on system configuration, interface, software, document complexity, print mode, page coverage and type of paper used.



Canon PIXMA MP170 Photo All-In-One
An affordable printer that lets customers do more right at home, whether it's printing, copying, scanning or direct photo printing.

Canon PIXMA MP150 Photo All-In-One
A value-for-money printer offering home users quality and speed.

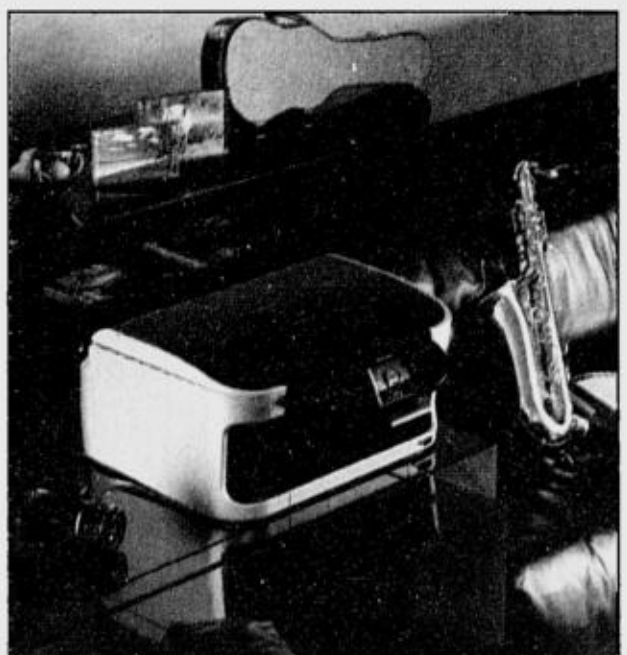
THE CONVENIENCE OF DIRECT PHOTO PRINTING

With the popularity of digital photography, consumers are looking for more convenient ways to print their digital images. And photo printing without a computer is the demand of the times.

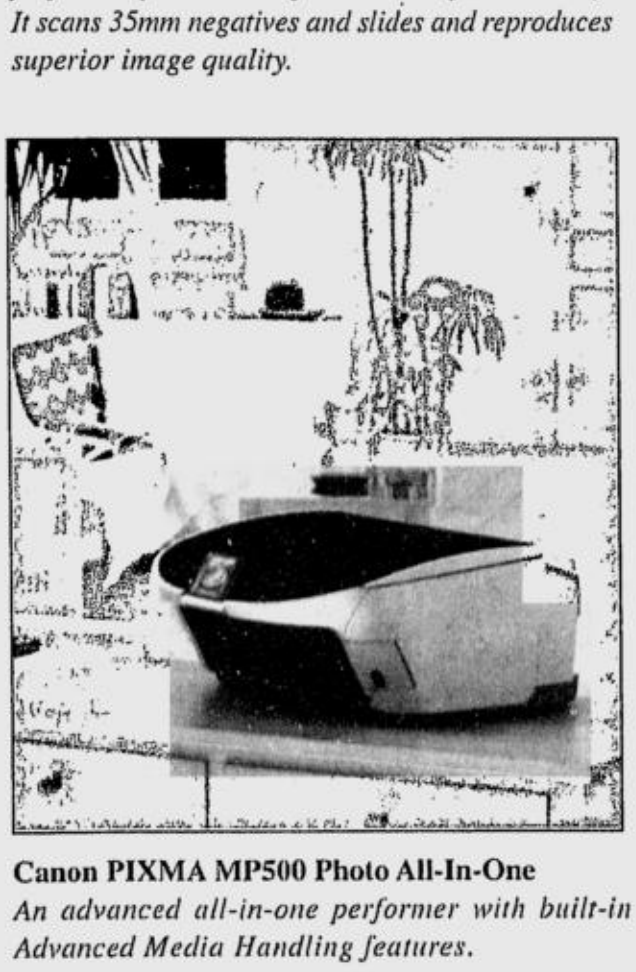
Canon's new range of printers is equipped with PictBridge technology for direct printing from PictBridge-enabled digital cameras. The integrated card slots also accept virtually any memory card for direct printing. This includes MicroDrive, CompactPlus(CF), Secure Digital(SD), Multimedia Card (MNC), MemoryStick, and xD cards.

Plus, the PIXMA MP800 and PIXMA MP500 feature IrDA interface for printing of photos from camera-equipped mobile phones and personal digital assistants (PDAs), with automatic Image Optimization to enhance images even from low-resolution digital camera phones. An optional Bluetooth module is also available for the printers for connectivity with Bluetooth devices.

Aside from being equipped with these fantastic technologies including ChromaLife100 Ink Technology, FINE™ Print-head, Advanced Media Handling, the range also meets very specific consumer demands:



Canon PIXMA MP800 Photo All-In-One
For professional users, a premium photo all-in-one performer packed with features and functionality. It scans 35mm negatives and slides and reproduces superior image quality.



Canon PIXMA MP500 Photo All-In-One
An advanced all-in-one performer with built-in Advanced Media Handling features.

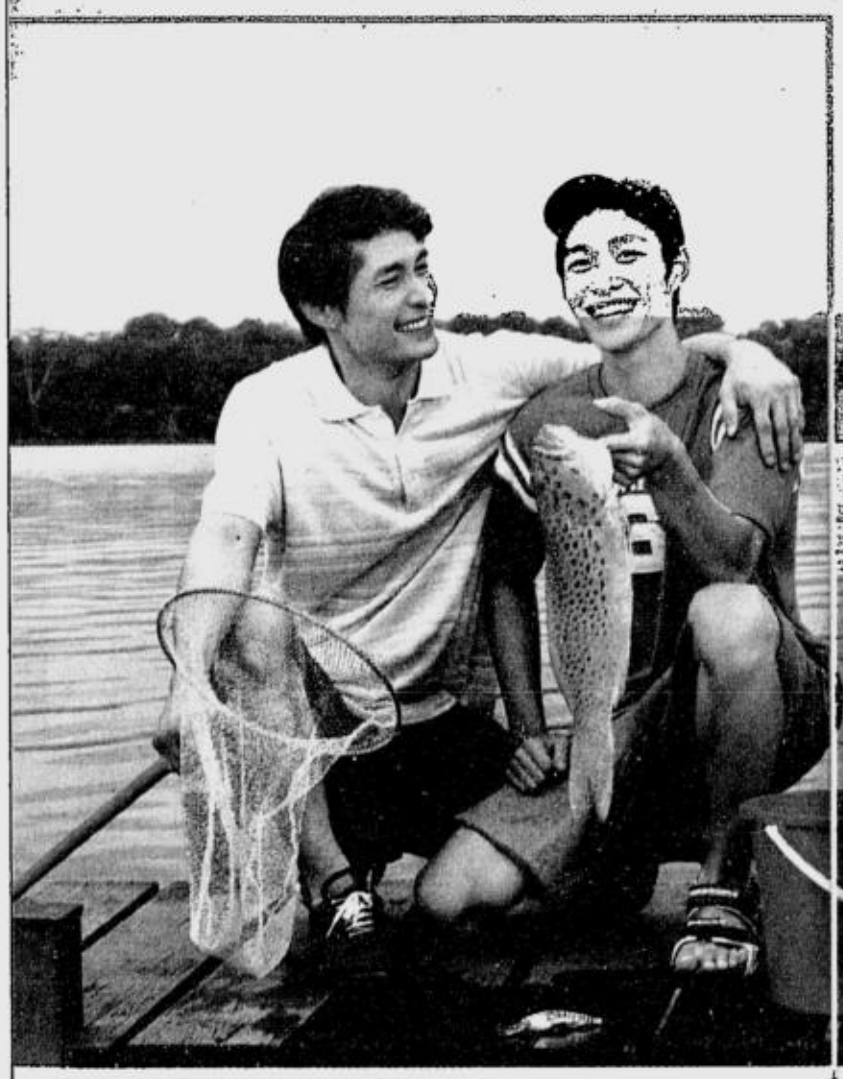
Canon Raised The Bar But Planted Its Feet On The Ground

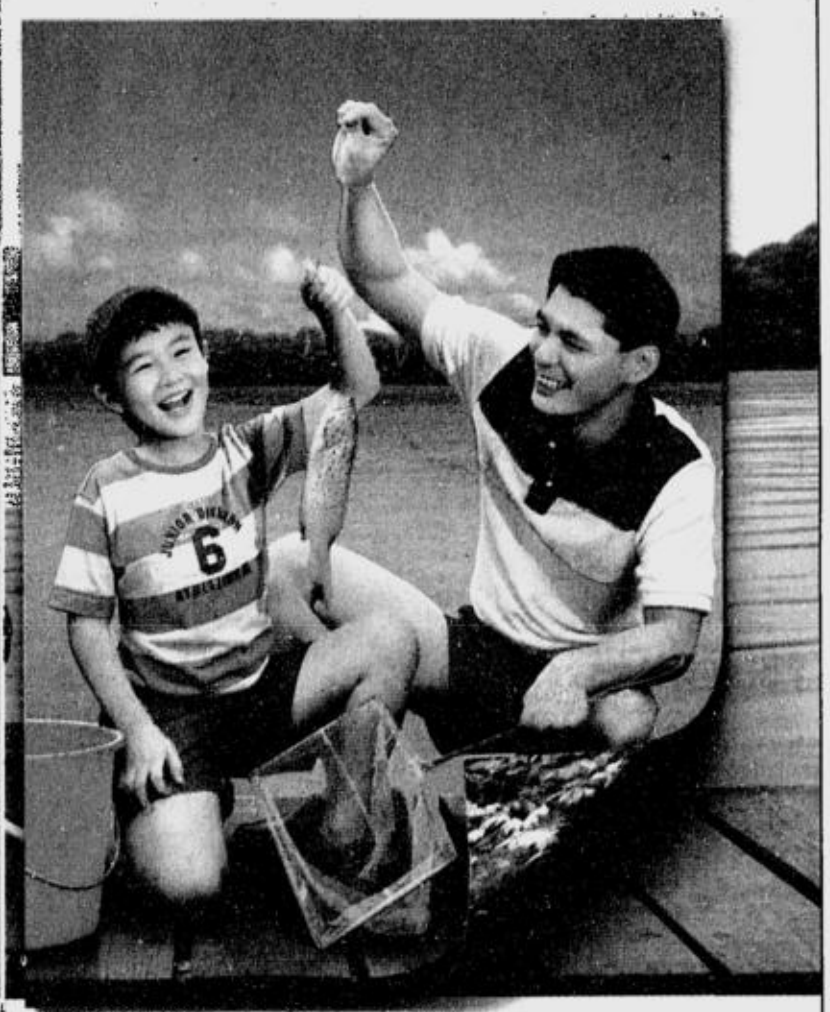
More than being a global leader in photographic and digital imaging solutions, Canon only wants to bring the best to its consumers. Despite being a global network with 153 companies and 100,000 people under its wing, this company's approach to the development of its new products is still very personal. That's why the new PIXMA Photo Printers and All-In-One machines are purely designed to meet the consumer's personal demands. At the same time, it raised the bar of photo printing- an achievement that will surely be topped by Canon again.

Canon

Delighting You Always

Keep your favourite memories vivid and beautiful always with PIXMA.





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Lab-quality photos printed at amazing speed with FINE™ technology

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ChromaLife100

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- Allows you to load both Auto Sheet Feeder and Paper Feed Cassette for high-volume printing
- Load different paper types in two separate feeders without the hassle of manually switching between them

Auto Duplex Printing & Copying

- Create professional-looking, double-sided documents and photo albums with ease
- Save time and money printing on both sides without the hassle of having to manually turn over your printouts

CD/DVD Direct Printing

- Print content listings or customise your designs directly on any CD or DVD with the built-in tray guide
- High-quality direct printing on surface of CD/DVD that lasts longer than ordinary sticker labels

PIXMA MP150[1]	PIXMA MP500
• Min. 2pl ink droplet size	• Min. 1pl ink droplet size
• 4800 x 1200 dpi print resolution	• 9600 x 1200 dpi print resolution
• 22/17 ppm mono/color	• 22/17 ppm mono/color
• Print, Scan, Copy	• Print, Scan, Copy
• Pictbridge	• Pictbridge
	• Direct Printing Features

[1] Ink droplets can be placed with a pitch of 1/9600 inch at minimum.

[2] Based on default mode driver setting using Canon Photo Paper Plus Glossy Paper. Print speed may vary depending on system configuration, interface, software, document complexity, print mode, page coverage and type of paper used.

MP170	MP450	MP780	MP800
• Min. 2pl ink droplet size	• Min. 2pl ink droplet size	• Min. 1pl ink droplet size	• Min. 1pl ink droplet size
• 4800 x 1200 dpi print resolution	• 4800 x 1200 dpi print resolution	• 9600 x 2400 dpi print resolution	• 9600 x 2400 dpi print resolution
• 22/17 ppm mono/color	• 22/17 ppm mono/color	• 22/17 ppm mono/color	• 22/17 ppm mono/color
• Print, Scan, Copy	• Print, Scan, Copy	• Print, Scan, Copy, Fax	• Print, Scan, Copy
• Card Direct	• Pictbridge		• Film Scanning
	• Direct Printing Features		• Direct Printing Features

*To avail of the freebies, mail your warranty card to Canon Marketing Philippines. The free items will be sent to you via courier service.

Promo Period: Oct. 15-Dec. 31, 2005
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 6025, Series of 2005

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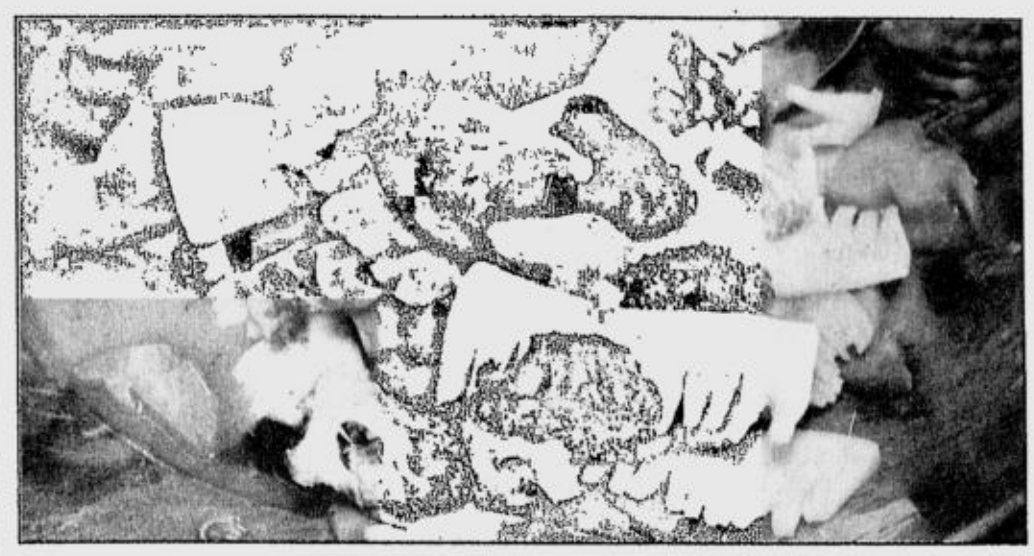
STEAMED lapu-lapu



MIXED vegetables

Chinese food-to-go at the Suki Market

Outside of Binondo, the best place for cheap Chinese food is on the border of Manila and Quezon City

PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW, and I count myself among them, think that Suki Market is where you buy cheap home décor, party giveaways, Christmas gifts. It's because stalls outside display those goods. But if you proceed inside, there's a wet market. Still, it isn't like any wet market.

Outside of Binondo, Suki Market is where the mostly Chinese clientele who live in the Banawe area—the new Chinatown—buy their seafood supply. But that isn't what makes this market unusual. It's not the aquariums that line one wall, holding live fish and shrimps as well as crabs. It's a few stalls on that same side selling cooked food. One market aficionado tells us this is the way wet markets are going—cooked food-to-go together with ingredients still to be cooked.

Styrofoam and aluminum trays hold the food. Pata tim, pork leg braised in soy sauce look attractive with a bunch of boiled *bok choy* (Chinese cabbage) on top.

Fried crab, already chopped, is made even more flavorful cooked in Chinese wine and sesame oil with bits of chopped ginger and sliced leeks adding more color as well.

Soy chicken, a whole one, is still hot under the cling sheet that covers each tray.

Pork spare ribs made red with the marinade and clams cooked in black beans are in their temporary waiting bowls to be scooped out and then placed in proper trays..

SUKI Market display of cooked food–Filipino, Chinese, Japanese

PHOTOS BY RUDY ESPERAS

PATA tim

Dim sum

In another stall, there are dim sum. A little girl handling the sales enumerates the ingredients in reply to my query why one order is more expensive than the other. This *siomai*, she explains, only has ground pork while the other has vegetables as well. Favorites such as *siopao* buns and chicken feet are present.

There are boiled taro slices. The fried rice includes peanuts on top. It seems the cooks who do these food-to-go on site know what their mostly Chinese clients look for.

There are kitchens behind the stalls where the cooking is done. The vendors tell us that ingredients can be bought in the wet market proper and then brought there for them to cook according to the kind of dish you want. Shades of the fish market in Pasay.

No one, however, is seen eating in the few tables at the back of the stalls. Let me just describe the place as not conducive to eating at all.

Several chaffing dishes are brought in by a client. I do know of one caterer who buys her cooked food there. It seems that food providers know it might even be cheaper to buy instead of cooking dishes. Paella? The proprietor tells her client they have it, proving how versatile her menu could be.

Versatile

The versatility can be discerned by scanning what is offered. The food isn't confined to Chinese cooking. *Bopis* and *sisig* seem the favorites, in fact. I can attest that the delicious *bopis* deserves to be bought although some who've tasted it thought it too spicy.

Another stall concentrates on Filipino native cakes—*puto, cuchinta, suman.*

If you yearn for Japanese sushi, there is an assortment in one tray (P60) and one party-size arranged on a *bilao* (woven bamboo round tray) costing P500. Every hour, the vendor tells us, one such huge container is made.

Just to give you an idea of the cost: For my family of five the big *pata tim* is P200; a small tray of *bopis* is P50; the stir-fried *ampalaya* with pork is P60; the clams in black bean sauce cost P50. The grand total is P360. That does not include the rice plus a dessert of *leche flan* worth P30.

You pay nothing for cooking gas although transportation going there and back should also be added to the cost. But if you go on a Saturday, there's hardly any traffic and it's a breeze to go, buy and then come back.

By lunch, we have dishes courtesy of Suki Market. For the first time in a long while, the rice bowl needs to be refilled.

Suki Market is at Mayon St. between Dapitan and Laon Laan Sts., Quezon City.

Street food party

Those guilty pleasures make for a street-smart and delicious party

THE ORGANIZERS were given a limited budget for a Christmas party, too limited that would not interest even the cheapest catering outfit.

So what to do with a hundred hungry covers at rock-bottom prices? Why, invite street food vendors to make up the buffet!

The idea arose when someone witnessed another office party where the "dirty" ice cream vendor plying his wares outside was invited to provide the dessert. His cart was loaded into the elevator for the ride up to the fifth-floor office. He had been assured that his whole stock—creamy and cold mango, cheese and *ube* flavors—would be bought. And so he became the life of the party! His colorful cart even contributed to the ambience.

Each of the Christmas party organizers was assigned to provide a specific street food. The organizers had to think up ways to get the vendors to go to the address and pay them for their products.

When the office staff arrived for the party, they were delighted to see portable carts providing the buffet that evening. Monobloc chairs and tables were laid out on the sprawling garden.

The fish- and squid-ball vendor cooked right there, his sauces all just made as required by the one assigned to him. Safety in the eating was one of the requirements, the organizers were told.

The barbecue vendor couldn't come, but his products were on display, laid out exactly as they were sold on the sidewalk—on grills—and emitting aromatic smoke. Aside from pork, there were also sticks of *isaw* or chicken intestines. (The curly way the intestines are skewered inspired *isaw*'s other name, "IUD.")

Nor was the banana cue vendor there. Sticks of two fried tender *saging na saba* covered with caramelized sugar were laid out on a huge *bilao*. Some *camote* cue were also added in, soft inside and crunchy from the cooked sugar outside.

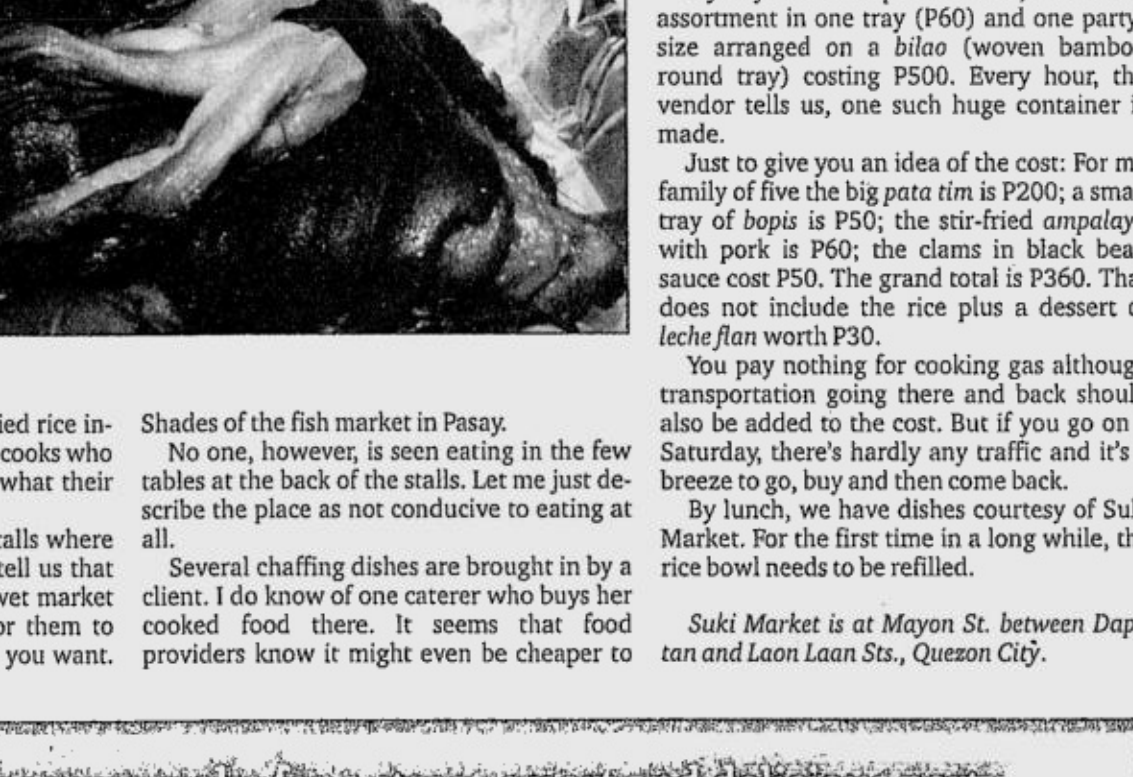
It was a delight to see the popcorn vendor with his *kimki* lighting up his stall. The smell of cooked popcorn and the *kropek* reminded those old enough of Luneta when those were sold on stalls near the bay.

Cool station

The refreshment section had "*sa malamig*"-inspired plastic containers. Because hygiene was an important consideration, the organizers decided to do this themselves, mixing *gulaman* and *sago* with *panocha*-flavored water and ice. The melon was really made from the fruit (instead of the street version consisting of measly strands of melon and food coloring).

The idea to make scramble (the street version of the frappe) was abandoned because no one knew how to do it even with instructions to use an egg beater to create the foam.

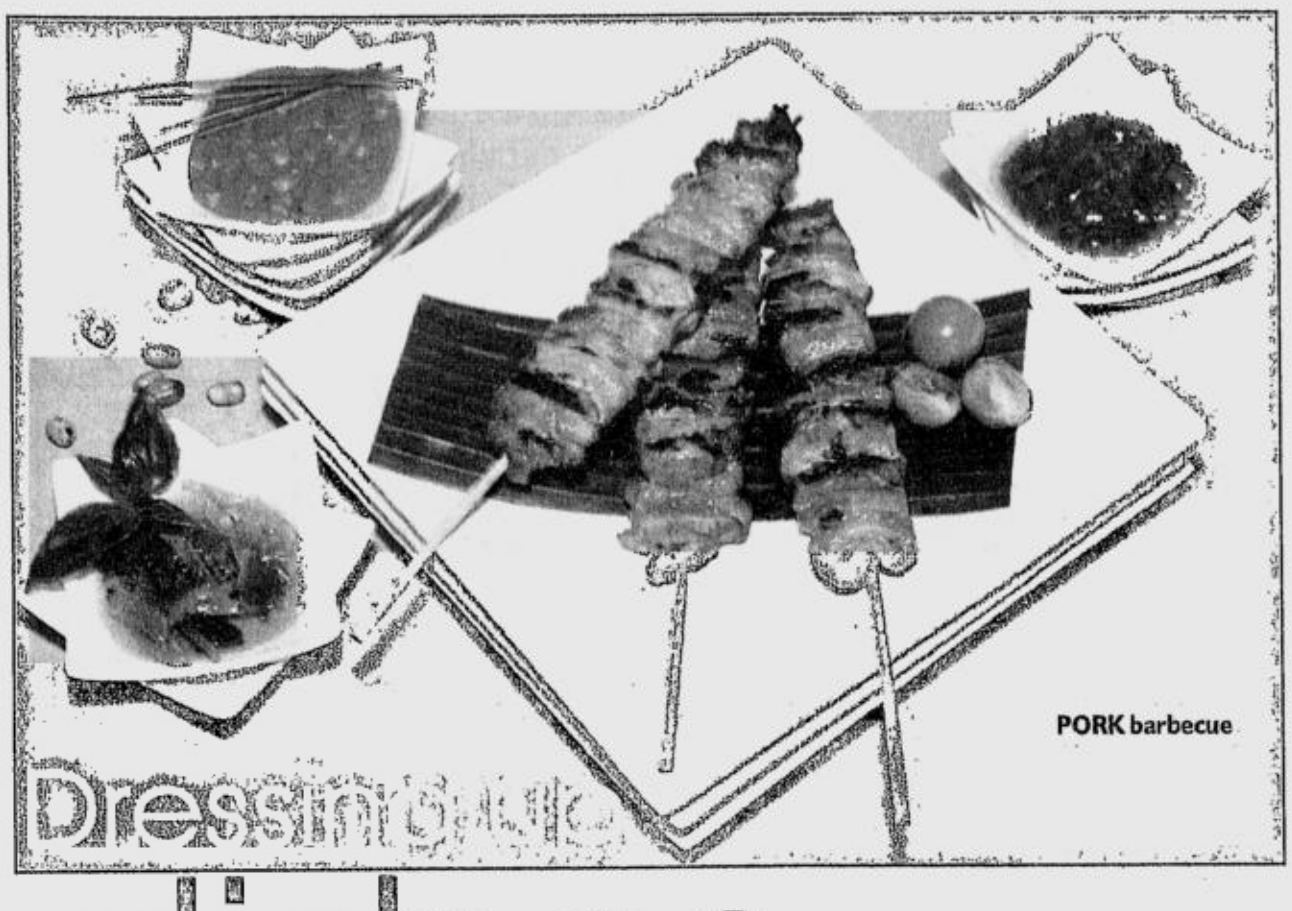
Someone still had that old softdrink cooler that used cold water to cool the colas. So that was brought in and it became such a hit with the younger crowd who had never experienced that old contraption before. It would have been authentic if the softdrinks were poured inside plastic containers with a straw inside, but someone mentioned how difficult it was to park that plastic somewhere while one ate.



THE COLORFUL carts of the "dirty" ice cream vendors contribute to the party's ambience.

And, of course, the ice cream vendor was there, amused by all the excitement with the food and the stalls and the carts. What was he to make of such comments as "How *galing naman*!" or how his ice cream was called "dirty"? As long as he was assured of his sales then, I suppose, he couldn't care less.

There was so much food on such a small budget that at the end of the party, everyone took home something. The vendors, of course, were delighted with such a fruitful evening. They were in proper party dress code and even got paid for partying.



PORK barbecue

From page F8

the mixture where the morcon was cooked in. Garnish with something that will complement the dish. Olives, for instance, will give a salty and crunchy counterpoint to the rich flavor of the beef and tangy sauce.

Like the *morcon*, the *embutido* and *galantina* are also rolled meats and basically are sliced into roundish pieces. The *embutido* and *galantina*, however, are most often served cold or tepid. A good siding would be fresh greens or a potato salad, either homemade or store-bought. The sauce, whether gravy or even ketchup, can be served in small bowls also on the side.

'Inihaw na tilapia,' pork barbecue

Myrna Segismundo, managing director of Restaurant 9501, the executive lounge of ABS-CBN, was tasked to dress up grill items. As a food stylist, she knows how to make a dish appealing to the eye in cookbook photographs. But when food is served to be eaten, her styling involves sauces, salsas and garnishes.

MYRNA Segismundo of Restaurant 9501

Take vegetables and chopped fruits and some herbs, place some acid such as vinegar and lemon and you have salsa. Garnishes can include chopped parsley sprinkled on top of cubed tomatoes. Dressings such as bottled thousand island or bleu cheese can be diluted with stock or oil to achieve the consistency of sauce. Serve on the side as condiment.

To illustrate her point, she took pork barbecue and served this skewered grilled pork with two kinds of sauces—peanut and black olive—and a dried mango chutney.

For the peanut sauce, use chunky peanut butter or chopped peanuts, some stock, soy sauce, salt and pepper.

INIHAW na tilapia

The black olive sauce has chopped black olives, anchovies, bits of rosemary all mixed with olive oil.

Dried mango chutney starts with chopped dried mangoes, sugar, water, lemon juice and some chili.

For an upgraded *inihaw na tilapia*, she suggests removing the head and filleting before grilling, that is, if you do it yourself. But at Sidcor, fish is grilled as is, head and all intact. This time, a pineapple-coriander salsa, a *sambal* and a chunky tomato-caper sauce are recommended to go with the *tilapia*.

For the salsa, fresh pineapple is chopped and so with the coriander. Mix in chopped bell pepper, salt, lemon juice and olive oil.

The *sambal* is simply *bagoong* (fermented shrimps) and chili.

The tomatoes for the sauce have to be blanched, skinned and seeded then cut into cubes, added with capers and finished with olive oil.

Time to clean out your ref

By Myrna Segismundo
Contributor

Your fridge contains oldies but goodies that will make a delightful dinner

WHEN I GET THE URGE to clean out the fridge and cupboards it's always time to party with close friends who belong to a fun group called BGT (Barangay Good Time).

Of course, I never say that I just have to get rid of oldies in the fridge. I always say I have a culinary inspiration. The little get-togethers are really excuses to play in the kitchen and, most of all, to rid the fridge of oldies but goodies that take up space.

If you have any of the following odds and ends in your ref or grocery cabinets, and I'm certain you have most of them, you can whip up a number of dishes. With a little imagination, lots of daring experimentation and a generous spike of herbs, spices and condiments, you're ready to party.

Here are some suggestions:

1. About 3 c assorted leftover cheese simmered with ½ c white wine from an open bottle + about ½ c fresh milk or cream + desired seasonings = Cheese Fondue

Note: You want to achieve the consistency of diluted Chiz Whiz here.

2. A do-it-yourself salad bar with homemade dressings you can make and serve with assorted vegetables and condiments found in your fridge. Place any of the following in individual serving bowls and allow your guests to concoct their own salads.

- From cans: flaked tuna, corn kernels, chick peas, mushrooms, asparagus, anchovies, etc.
- From the bottles: pickles, pearl onions, olives
- From the vegetable crisper: sliced tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, celery sticks, bell peppers, onions, lettuce, boiled potatoes, turnips, radishes, etc.
- Preserved fruits and nuts: dried fruits like raisins, mangoes, prunes/dates, figs, peanuts, cashews, pine nuts, almonds, walnuts
- Processed meats and fish: ham slices, cooked bacon bits, assorted cold cuts, smoked salmon/*tanguingue*, *tinapa* flakes
- Homemade dressings you can make:

• 4 cloves garlic + 1 c vegetable oil + 2 strips anchovies + 2 egg yolks + 1 tsp mustard + a few dashes of Worcestershire sauce and hot sauce + grated parmesan cheese + salt and pepper. Process in a blender till smooth. The result: Caesar salad dressing.

• 1 part tomato ketchup + 2 parts mayo + some pickle relish + 1 chopped boiled egg = thousand island dressing

• 2 parts vinegar + 1 part vegetable oil + ½ pc minced onion + minced bell pepper = vinaigrette!

• 2 parts honey + ½ part *patis* + juice from *dayap* or 3 pcs calamansi + *dayap* zest = Honeyed *patis* dressing

•1 tbsp of sautéed *bagoong alamang* (shrimp paste) + 1 c vinegar + 2 tbsp oil + dash of sugar, to taste = *bagoong* dressing

3. Turn your cooked starches and breads into creative entrees:

- If you have cooked pasta, toss it in a heated pan with some olive oil and garlic. Better still, add some torn basil leaves, a sprinkling of toasted pine nuts (or maybe, cashews), strip of anchovy if you have it and some chili flakes.
- If you have leftover cold Oriental noodles, toss it in a serving bowl with some creamy peanut butter, add a dash of soy sauce, some chopped chilis for heat and garnish with sprigs of coriander or minced chives.
- Leftover rice is transformed into heavenly grains when you stir-fry with: oil and garlic = garlic rice; oil and bagoong = bagoong rice; garlic, onions, leftover meat or seafood, green peas, carrots, scrambled eggs, etc. = Oriental rice
- Cube leftover bread for dunking into the cheese fondue or turn them into croutons for your salad bar.
- Soak bread in milk, eggs, butter and sugar and make bread pudding or french toast. Add fruits like mangos, bananas, raisins, etc., and spike with a jigger or two of either rum, scotch whiskey, brandy or liqueur, if desired.

4. Dice up leftover fruits and place in a bowl with some seedless grapes. Add some juice from fresh oranges, *dalandan* or calamansi and sweeten with sugar syrup for a refreshing fruit salad. Add some chopped mint for character.

Enjoy!

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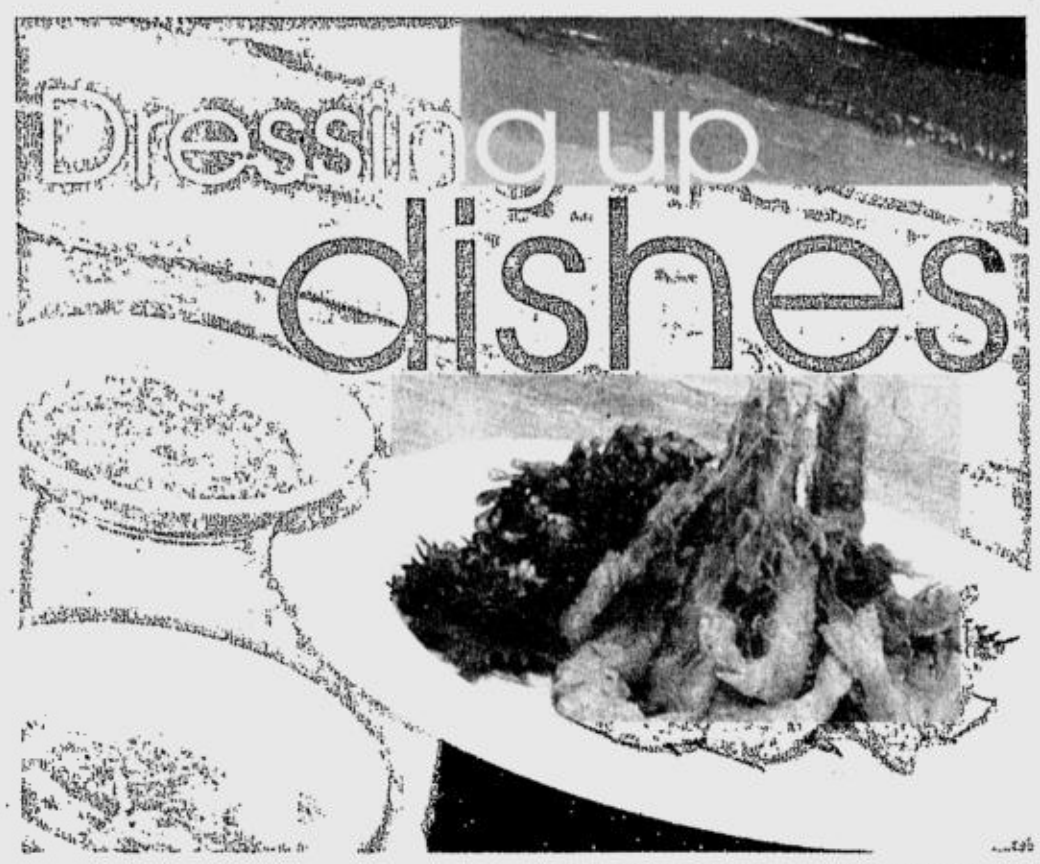
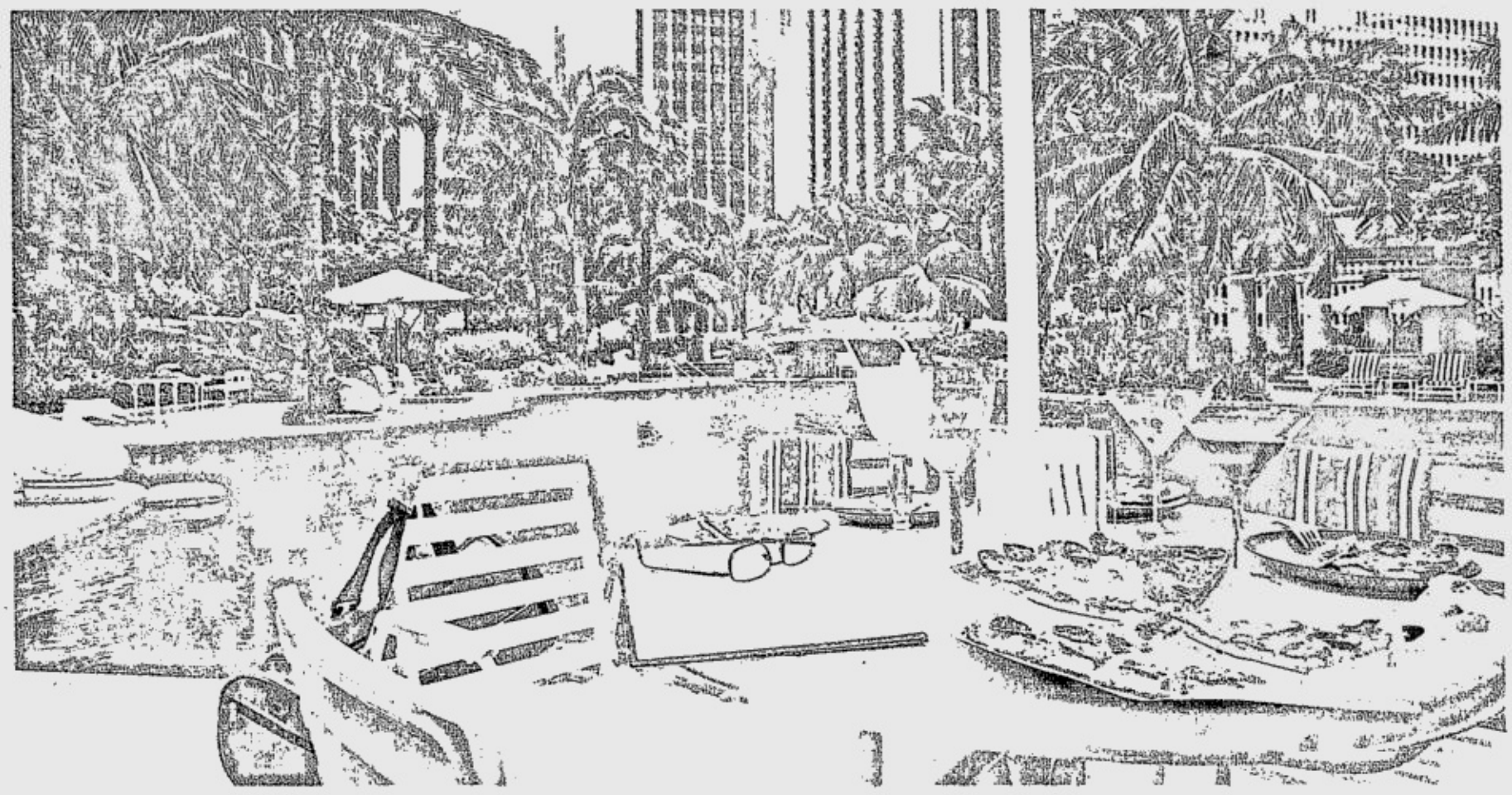
CHICKEN *galantina*

MORCON

Dressing up dishes



NILASING na Hipon PHOTOS BY RUDY ESPERAS



JESSIE Sincioco of Le Soufflé

It's not only for aesthetics, but also for taste reinforcement

By Michaela Fenix

HOW WOULD PROFESsionals dress up dishes for your fast feast?

Three busy chefs were asked to make time and teach the home cook how to spruce up store-bought food. While a nice platter will do for most of us, chefs will add something extra, whether color, garnish or dips.

'Nilasing na hipon'

Jessie Sincioco of Le Soufflé at Rockwell in Makati was assigned to dress up *nilasing na hipon*. Not having cooked the dish, she still searched for the recipe so she could cook it correctly. *Pako* or fiddlehead fern was supposed to go with the fried shrimps, but on her market day, she couldn't find any. She substituted *ar-arosep* or *lato* (grape-like seaweed), which is even better considering how both come from the sea. Knowing what will work visually, she provided the backdrop used for the photography, a painting of a seaside scene.

The shrimp heads were all looking up and each piece arranged almost vertically, giving height to the dish. The orange crustaceans contrasted perfectly with the green seaweeds.

Fried food is never complete without the dips. And so Sincioco prepared vinegar mixed with garlic, salt and chili, or a chili sauce straight from the bottle. *Nilasing na hipon* never looked so good.

'Embutido, morcon, galantina'

Jay Gamboa of El Cirkulo and Café J was assigned the meat dishes because those are among the items that can be bought at the Milky Way food-to-go section, part of the Gamboa family's string of restaurants.

Our chef suggests to slice the *morcon* while cold because the roll will be easier to cut and each piece will retain its shape. The pieces should be placed in a foil and heated through in an oven. Arrange pieces on a platter as the picture shows. Serve with a nice tomato sauce, or the sauce provided that is usually

DRESSING/ F7

JAY Gamboa of El Cirkulo and Café J

It's 5 in the afternoon,
and Maria finds herself on the stationary bike,
completely trapped in the third chapter of her new novel.
Ramon, struggling to keep his balance on the stepper
is going on his 29th minute.
Not bad for a 65 year old couple, on their daily gym ritual,
at their condominium, right in the middle of Greenbelt.

Suddenly, their grandchildren,
rush across the Podium and burst into the gym.
"I want to swim Lolo!", screams Luisa the 4 year old.
"We're hungry Lola!", shout the rest. "Let's go down for pizza!"

They look at each other and smile.
Maria whispers, "You do realize that
we're the most popular grandparents on the planet,
don't you Ramon?" He agrees.

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TOURISM assistant secretary for tourism planning and promotions Edu Jarque accepting marketing award from Kristof Szymoniuk, president of MSI Fairs and Exhibitions at the Otdykh Fair Moscow 2005

YLE Travel

The Russians are coming!

The Philippines attracts enthused and well-funded tourists at back-to-back travel fairs in Moscow

Text and photos by Chelo Banal-Formoso

FOR A LONG TIME OFF-limits and, contrary to the popular song, somewhat unloved by the rest of the world, Russia has flung open its doors in recent years to welcome both inbound tourists as well as set free its citizens to discover other places. That outbound market is what the Philippines, through the Department of Tourism, is now aggressively pursuing.

Having discovered enthused and well-funded Russian tourists at a travel trade fair in Moscow last year, the DOT returned this year with a fortified program for attracting to our fair isles more Muscovites and their vacationing comrades.

The DOT set up shop at back-to-back events in Russia's premier city recently, complete with a delegation of tour planners and operators, members of Congress whose particular turf is tourism funding, and travel media.

Qatar Airways-Philippines partially sponsored the trip of the Philippine delegation by extending discounted airfare and cargo rates. Thanks to Qatar, Russians got their introduction to Philippine coconut oil—virgin and all—as well as herbal soaps.

First on the Philippine delegation's calendar was the Spa & Health Moscow 2005, an international workshop and conference on the health and healing benefits of spas. Then the day the spa conference closed, a travel trade fair called Otdykh Fair Moscow 2005 opened to a huge crowd. "Otdykh" is Russian for "leisure," a concept that, in any language, has a rather happy ring to it.

Wellness tourism

Why a whole conference on spas? Well, spa destinations have multiplied throughout the world and are helping revitalize tourism in countries with fully orchestrated massage services, notably Thailand, Indonesia and India. Wellness tourism, which focuses mostly on spas

THE RUSSIANS/ G2

SOOTHING massage from Bellevue Spa Club therapist Nora Putulan. Russians signed up for the massage at both the Spa Conference and the Leisure Fair.

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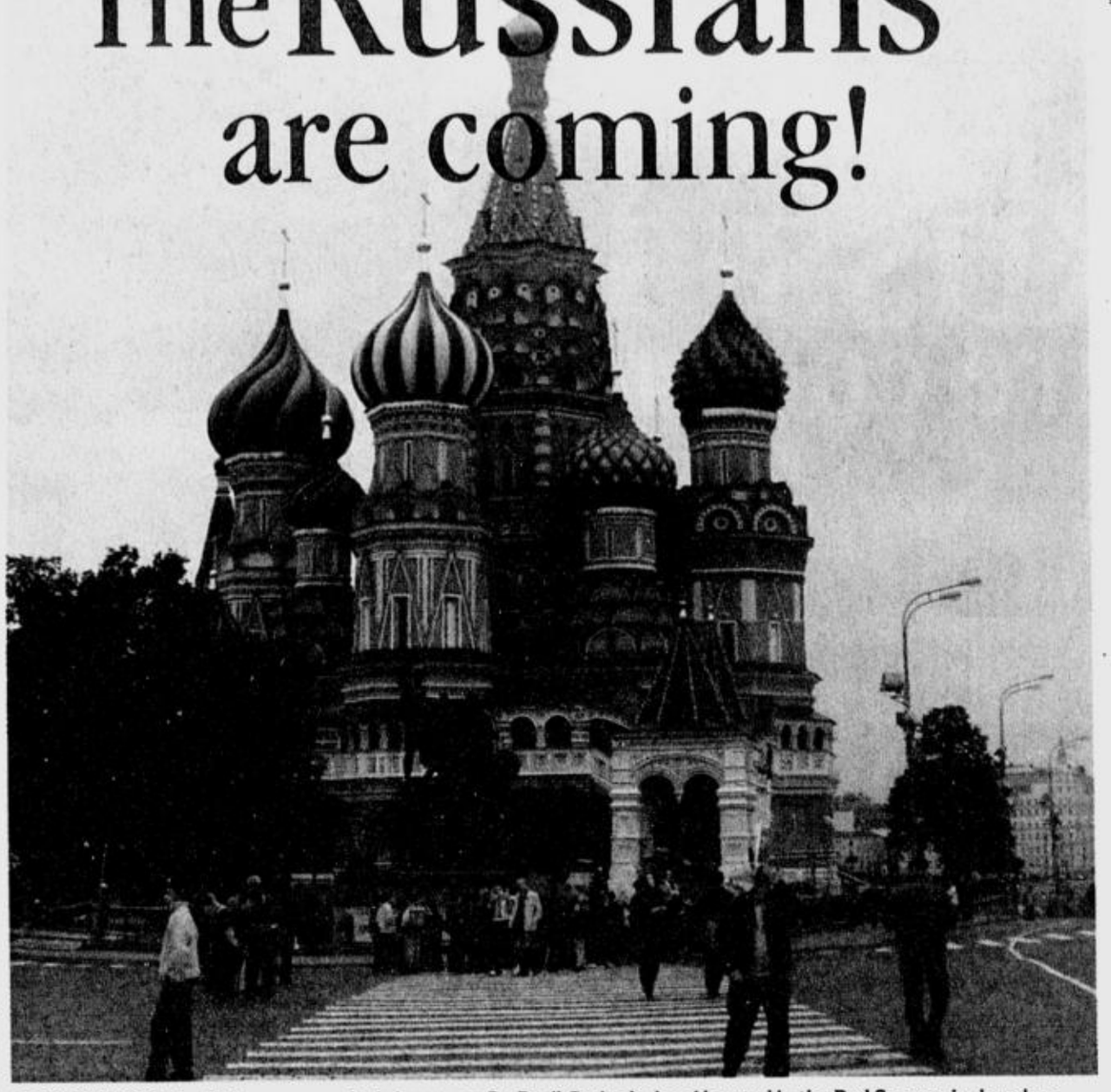
The Russians are coming!



POKROVSKY Cathedral, more popularly known as St. Basil Cathedral and located in the Red Square, is closed on Tuesdays and every first Monday of the month.

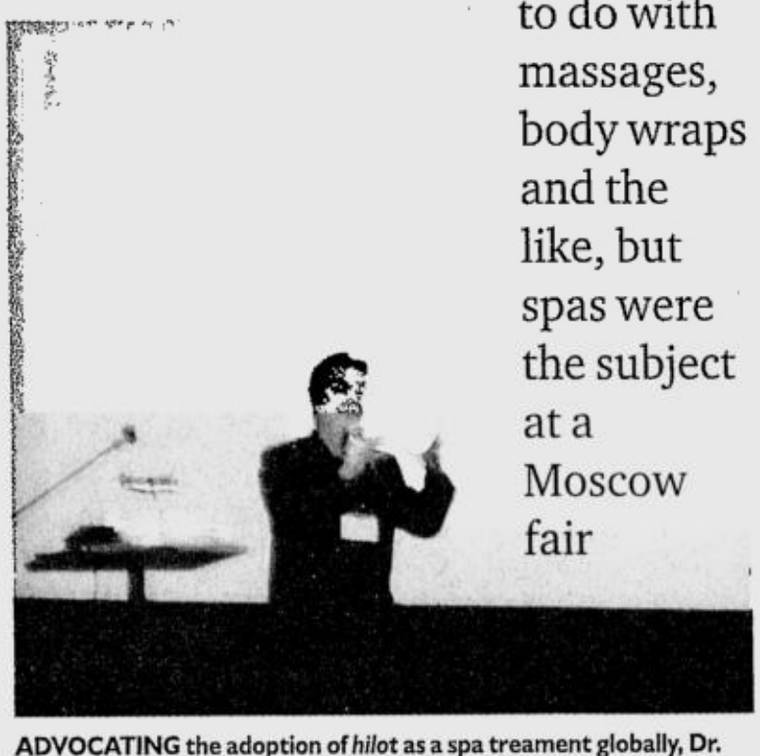
From page G1

because no one really wants to check into a hospital while on holiday, is actually a course taught in colleges of tourism in Eastern Europe. So a conference such as the Spa & Health Moscow 2005 is a serious undertaking for Russians and their neighboring nations. So serious attendees were charged Euro 150 apiece.

In Europe, spas are dedicated to the pursuit of well-being and are not mere centers for pampering and hedonism as in American and Asian cities. No wonder the conference program included discussions on preventive medicine in spas; the power of natural springs of Czech spas, of which more than 40 are mineral spas used for baths, drinking and inhalation; the healing power of hot springs and mud cure in Italy; the European alpine region as a wellness destination; methods of rejuvenation of the skin in Germany; the curative power of Lake Heviz in Hungary, which is the largest natural warm water lake in Europe, among other topics.

Not to be outdone, the DOT and the Spa Association of the Philippines contributed seven time-honored ways of healing that are now being integrated into the spa health and wellness services in the Philippines.

'Spasiba' is Russian for 'thank you' and has nothing to do with massages, body wraps and the like, but spas were the subject at a Moscow fair



ADVOCATING the adoption of *hilot* as a spa treament globally, Dr. Jaime Galvez Tan speaks at the Moscow spa conference.

DOT at work: Director of DOT central and eastern Europe Venus Q. Tan, Team Europe head coordinator Verna Buensuceso, RP marketing rep in Russia Edward Grigiriev, DOT assistant secretary Edu Jarque and marketing specialist Linda Fernandez at the spa conference

JOMAR Fleras of Sanctuario Spa demonstrates *hilot* before a big crowd of workshop attendees.

Art of 'hilot'

The department tapped Dr. Jaime Galvez Tan, executive director of the National Institutes of Health as well as vice chancellor for research and development at the University of the Philippines, to give the Philippine presentation on the seven traditional means of healing, namely, *dinalisay*, *kisig galing*, *unang lana*, *tapik kawayan*, *paligo*, *oslob* and *hilot*.

In a stroke of brilliance, Dr. Tan offered *hilot* as a spa treatment, made more exotic with the use of virgin coconut oil and banana leaves. He described *hilot* as "an eclectic mix of indigenous traditional massage techniques from seven major ethno-linguistic cultural areas of the Philippines, bringing forth the best in each practice, ensuring a joyful yet serene total body experience."

"My dream," disclosed Tan, "is for *hilot* to be a universally accepted form of massage, up there with the Japanese Shiatsu, the Thai massage, the Swedish massage and the Indian Ayurvedic massage."

Dr. Tan's talk was complemented by Sanctuario Spa owner Jomar Fleras' workshop on *hilot* with actual demonstration. The questions from the audience belied a keen interest in *hilot* as an alternative mode of maintaining wellness.

Fleras was undaunted by the inquiries and, had the Russians known he was a therapist of many talents, could have demonstrated other exotic offerings such as *bentosa* cupping, *arbularyo* herb wrap and bath treatments and *dagdagay* tribal foot massage, all of which and more services are available at Sanctuario Spa, both in Malate and at Canyon Woods in Batangas.

Even before Dr. Tan's presentation, the Philippine stall at the spa fair had begun to draw a crowd interested in buying virgin coconut oil and herbal soaps. Some people were lucky enough to get a massage from Fleras or Nora Putulan, a therapist borrowed for the occasion by the DOT from the Bellevue Spa Club of the Bellevue hotel in Alabang.

New dimension

The link-up of tourism with the spa and wellness industry is a natural turn of events. As the competition for tourists became more intense after world economies went on a slump, the travel industry had to keep adding a new dimension to the vacation experience.

Travelers are no longer happy just to look at snow-capped mountains or take a dive in the deep. Now they want something that will elevate the skydiving or alpine climbing to a cleansing, healing, even spiritual high.

Riding this wave of new tourism, in which simple vacations do not cut it anymore, resorts have been built in the Philippines exclusively for spa vacations, while existing resorts and hotels have been renovated to accommodate spa facilities.

According to Edu Jarque, tourism assistant secretary for tourism planning and promotions, the DOT has given spas a closer look. On its sales blitzes abroad, it is increasingly marketing the Philippines as a haven where spa facilities are not so much for pampering as renewal, not so much for indulgence as self-healing.

The DOT has also accredited some spas for tourism purposes. Both Sanctuario Spa and Bellevue Spa Club, for instance, are accredited spas, as are the Mandala Spa in Boracay and the Plantation Bay Resort and Spa in Mactan.

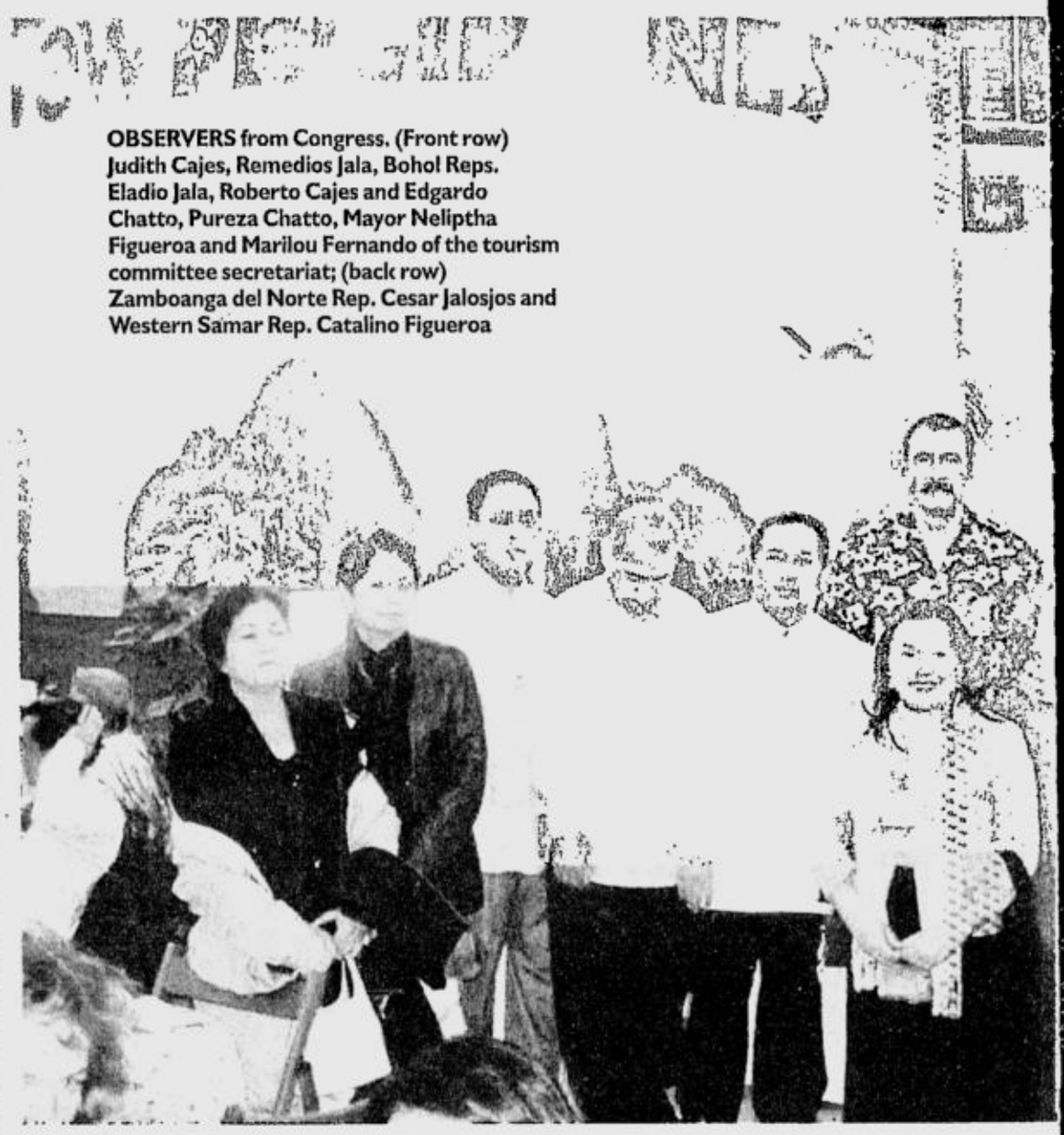
Not only that, the DOT's award-winning booth at the World Expo in Japan and the equally impressive stand at the Leisure Fair in Moscow both allotted space where fair-goers could sample Filipino massage, virgin coconut oil and herbal soaps.

The four-day Leisure Fair, the largest international tourism fair in Russia and now on its 11th year, was a marketing event that the DOT could not afford to pass up, much like the world travel industry events in London and Berlin. According to Frankfurt-based Venus Q. Tan, tourism attaché and director of DOT central and eastern Europe. So important is the Russian market that Tan and her marketing manager, Dakila F. Gonzales, have been closely working with marketing rep Eduard Grigoriev in stoking interest in the Philippines among Russian travelers.

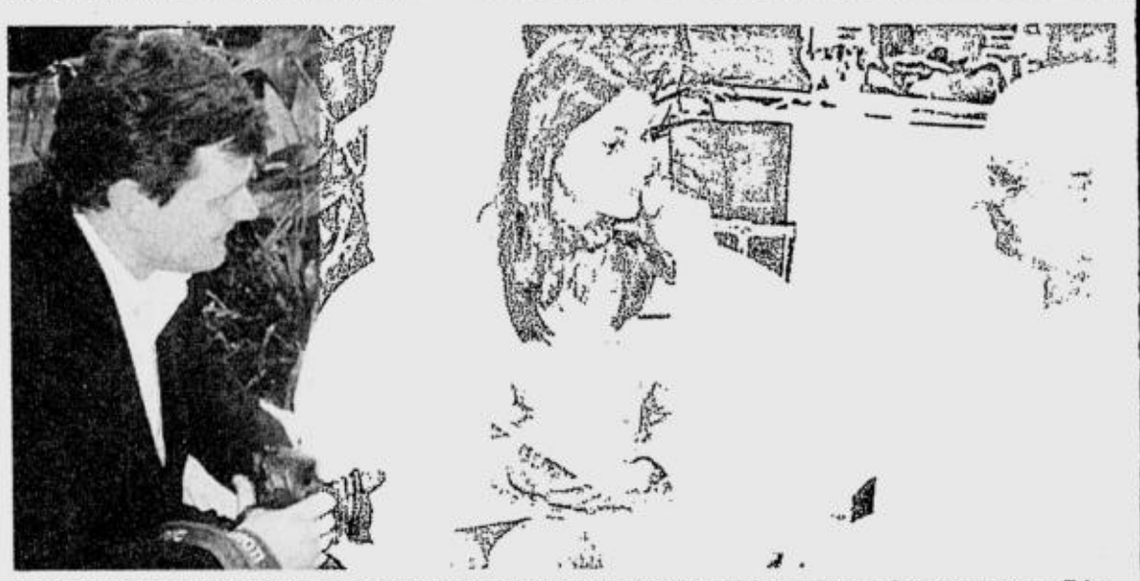
Russian potential

Russia, after all, has over 19 million outbound travelers every year, making it the No. 10 tourist-producing country in the world. It is also No. 10 in terms of how much Russians spend when they travel, and that ranking improves every year because the Russians are in the money. In fact, Forbes Magazine in 2005 reported that Moscow had 33 billionaires, two more than could be found in New York, making Russia's most famous city the world's billionaire capital.

There are 278 million people in the Russian Federation and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). For 70 years, Russians were restricted from traveling out of their country. Imagine all that pent-up desire to see the world suddenly unleashed. The number of Russians wishing to spend their holidays abroad grows by 25 percent every year, according to a World Tourism Organization survey.



OBSERVERS from Congress. (Front row) Judith Cajes, Remedios Jala, Bohol Reps. Eladio Jala, Roberto Cajes and Edgardo Chatto, Pureza Chatto, Mayor Neliptha Figueroa and Marilou Fernando of the tourism committee secretariat; (back row) Zamboanga del Norte Rep. Cesar Jalosjos and Western Samar Rep. Catalino Figueroa



WRITERS Sergey Serebryakov and Ekaterina Pugachova chatting with tourism assistant secretary Edu Jarque at the launch of their book "Eyewitness Guide to the Philippines"

RUSSIAN beauties Natasha Zabolotnaya and Katja Novojenova can speak fluent Tagalog, dance the *tinikling* and sing Basil Valdes' "Gaano Kadalas Ang Minsan."

WOMEN of the Russian media enjoying *kuchinta* and *pichi-pichi* after the guidebook's launch

TRAVEL is their business: Cesar Cruz of T.R.I.P.S. Travel and Pete Young of Marsman Drysdale Travel

MOSCOW-BASED Filipino accountant Rudy Abenoja with Russian wife Alya and their baby Tim. Through their company Prime Tours, they have been sending Russian tourists to the Philippines.

PHILIPPINE Ambassador to Russia Ernesto Llamas (seated center) with wife Macaria (in red blazer) and their dedicated embassy family

The fair is where tour planners and operators come to shop for a whole range of services for their Russian clients who want to travel during the year—from city sightseeing, winter holidays and sun-sea-sand packages to adventure safari tours, conventions and spa/wellness holidays. Yes, the new Russians expect to get more out of vacation these days, too, and lucky for them, the Philippines has a lot to offer.

The private sector of the travel industry in the Philippines was ably represented. Serafina Joven of Ansset Holidays, Patrick Blum of Blue Horizon Travel and Tours, Sonia Lazo of Intas Destinations, Pete Young of Marsman Drysdale Travel and Cesar Cruz of T.R.I.P.S. Travel, as well as resort representatives Joy Anne Denoga (El Nido Resorts) and Hatwig Schloz (Badian Island Resort and Spa) arrived in Moscow armed with brochures, PowerPoint presentations, packets of dried mangoes and loads of smiles. All day long they sat at their tables wooing Russian tour operators, who were only too glad to entertain their advances.

Filipino tour operators based in Moscow also saw action at the fair, including the husband-and-wife team behind Prime Tours,

Rodolfo and Alya Abenoja. The hardworking and good-natured Rudy, who is finance director at Siemens Com Carrier Service, proved that years of living in freezing Russian winters could not diminish the world-famous warmth of a Filipino.

Two Russian ladies who were fluent in Tagalog, having studied it in the university, acted as interpreters at the travel fair. Both Ekaterina "Katja" Novojenova and Natalia "Natasha" Zabolotnaya smiled a lot, and in this they were more like Filipinos than Moscovites. They recalled having a good time when they visited the Philippines and were house guests of National Artist Francisco Sionil Jose. Natasha is currently employed by the Philippine embassy and may be relied upon to render a Basil Valdez song at diplomatic socials.

The members of the House Committee on Tourism attended all the important Philippine events at the fair, led by Bohol Rep. Edgardo Chatto. Roberto Cajes and Eladio Jala, who are both from Bohol like Chatto, Zamboanga del Norte Rep. Cesar Jalosjos and Western Samar Rep. Catalino Figueroa, were later joined by Abdulla Dimaporo and Consuelo A. Dy, representatives from Lanao and Pasay, respectively.

RP guidebook in Russian

At the Leisure Fair, the DOT also launched the first Russian language guidebook about the Philippines before Russian media and travel industry professionals. Co-written by Ekaterina Pugachova and Sergey Serebryakov, "Glazami Ochevidtsa: Filippiny (Eyewitness Guide to the Philippines)" is a 208-page book sold in major bookstores and tour agencies in Russia. The copies that the authors brought to the Philippine booth were sold out by the second day.

The Russian media snacked on delicious *kuchinta* and *pichi-pichi* courtesy of Philippine Ambassador to the Russian Federation Ernesto V. Llamas and his wife Macaria. The ambassador and his staff gave their wholehearted support to the Philippine delegation throughout the two Moscow fairs.

Out of 65 countries and 45 national tourism boards that participated in the fair, five were awarded for actively promoting their destination to the Russian market, including the Philippines' DOT and its counterparts in Israel, Poland, Thailand and Bulgaria. The award, given in recognition of overall efforts in marketing and promoting the Philippines as a destination, brought tears to Venus Tan's eyes.

There will be more tears of joy for Tan in the days to come because, indeed, the Russians are coming to the Philippines. Tourism Secretary Ace Durano recently announced that in January, the first chartered flight from Vladivostok in Eastern Russia is expected in the Philippines.

"We knew the Moscow market would be a good one," said Jarque, "but we did much better than expected."

To book a trip to Russia, call Vladimir Pazcu at 0915-7031231.

For those who missed our TV spot, here's the print version.

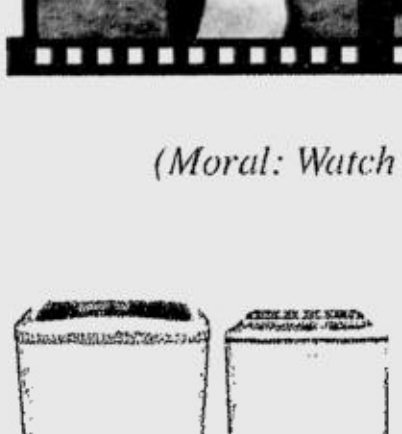
One day, Maria went up the hill. She danced and spun around.

She tripped and plonked on cow poo. Yech! She looked and smelled like one.

So she went home. She scrubbed, rinsed and dried.

(Oops! Naughty girl.) And got cleaned fast. She went up the hill again.

(Moral: Watch more primetime TV so you won't miss our spots again.)



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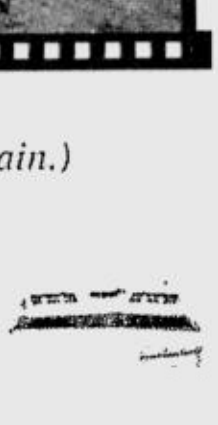

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TRAVELBRIEFS

Thai Airways' newest destination

ON NOV. 1, Thai Airways will start its thrice weekly non-stop service from Bangkok to Moscow. The new flight will operate Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday using an MD-11 aircraft. Royal Orchid Holidays tour packages that include visits to St. Basil's Cathedral, the Kremlin, Red Square, Gorky Park, performances of the Bolshoi Ballet are now available. Call 8124744 or log on to www.thaiairways.com.

SIA raffle promo

LOG ON to the new Singapore Airlines website, singaporeair.com for a chance to travel on the Raffles class. To qualify, customers must answer a simple quiz on the new website until Oct. 31. Ten winners will get business-class tickets for travel from SIA destinations closest to them to any point on the airline's network. Freebies await those booking online until Nov. 15.

Air China joins Asia Miles

Starting Oct. 28, Asia Miles members will be able to earn and redeem Asia Miles on Air China. Asia Miles members flying selected routes on Air China Oct. 28-Dec. 15 will earn double Asia Miles. Log on to www.asiamiles.com for details. Call 7571313.

Lufthansa marks Oktoberfest

LUFTHANSA German Airlines brings you to Oktoberfest in Munich, Germany. Fly on business class on Lufthansa's newest aircraft, the Airbus 340-600, and experience PrivateBed, FlyNet wireless Internet and Lufthansa Media World, among others. Call 5806800.

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Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila features a Suite Package that offers the third night on the house when you reserve two nights in any of the hotel's suites. All suites are designed with separate dining- and living-room areas, two plasma-screen television sets and advanced security features. Call 2451234.

WHOLE DAY OF FUN

Members of the Philippine Tour Organizers Association visit Enchanted Kingdom. Philtoa members were treated to a whole day of fun at the theme park and briefed on the activities the park was organizing in celebration of its 10th anniversary.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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Banaue-Sagada tour

DISCOVER the culture of Mountain Province and the Ifugao in Inscribe Tours' Banaue-Sagada Tour Oct. 28-31. The 4-day/3-night tour covers the Valley of Echoes, Sumaging and Lumiang Caves. Beyer and Bontoc Museums, Ifugao Heritage Village, studio of Eduardo Masferre and Sagada Weaving Shop and Trade Center. Call 8405912/5758370.

Explore Laos and Thailand

THE ASIA Society Philippine Foundation Inc. invites everyone to The Magic of Mekong: Splendors of Ancient Laos and Northern Thailand Nov 10-18. The non-profit, non-partisan organization promotes awareness and good working relationship among countries in the Asia-Pacific region Call 7524374/8108983.

Bazaar season at Intercon

INTERCONTINENTAL Manila hosts bazaars Sundays of October to December at the grand ballroom. A special Bazaar Shoppers Room Package is available to local residents Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. A deluxe room is available for P3,000+ per night plus free bazaar entrance, 20-percent discount on all Café Jeepney buffets and free use of the Red Corner Fitness Center and swimming pool. Bazaar goers get 15-percent discount on Café Jeepney buffets upon presentation of bazaar entrance stubs on the same day. Call 8159711.

Power meetings at Bellevue

THE BELLEVUE grand ballroom offers meeting packages ideal for conferences, forums and seminars from a minimum of 150 to a maximum of 800 participants. Call 7718181.

Punta Fuego's destination spa

PENINSULA de Punta Fuego's Ylang Ylang Spa offers an array of massages and body treatments Only specially concocted oils and potions, all derived from natural sources and prepared by hand are used in every pampering session.

Vietnam's best luxury hotel

CARAVELLE Hotel in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, was voted recently the city's Best Luxury Hotel in the annual awards of The Guide, Vietnam's leading tourism and hospitality magazine, published by Vietnam Economic Times. The award follows the Caravelle's recently being named Best Business Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City for the third consecutive year by the Readers of Business Traveller Asia Pacific. It also bagged another award for its excellent response time to corporate meeting requests, ahead of 500 other leading worldwide hotels, from the global hotel marketing organization World Hotels, of which the Caravelle is a member. The Caravelle is managed by Faruma Hotels & Resorts International, Hong Kong.

Fly to the US for free

EAST West Bank presents East West Getaways promo. Open an account with EWB until June 30, 2006, and earn a raffle entry for every P2,000 average collected daily balance. The first raffle draw is on Feb. 1, 2006. At stake is a free trip for four to Los Angeles, California. Call EWB's customer service hotline at 88817.

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You can text your answers from 4am to 11:59pm.
Php DTI-NCR Permit No. 2634, Series of 2005.

JOLLIBEE educational video compact discs teach children their alphabet, numbers, colors and shapes.

Let the bee help your kids with the ABC

By Vangie Baga-Reyes

JOLLIBEE, THE HOMEGROWN fast-food chain, has come up with a three-volume fun educational video compact disc (VCD) to help kids master their ABC and improve their counting skills.

The Jollibee educational VCDs that parents can watch with their kids at home was produced to a very professional standard, complete with sound effects and full musical soundtrack, chosen, arranged and recorded in Filipino by Star Records for Jollibee.

For its first educational VCD project, Jollibee started with the basics, like letters, numbers, shapes and colors. Each volume runs from 15-25 minutes and covers the following topics: first volume, "Alpabetong Pinoy," second, "Mga Hugis at Kulay," and third, "Bilang."

"We want to provide enjoyable educational tools that would help parents and kids learn together," says Inez Reyes, Jollibee's vice president for marketing. "We want parents to see Jollibee as their partner in raising kids and we want kids to be happy learning."

Jollibee's bee mascot stars in the video, with four popular members of the Going Bulilit Show of ABS-CBN, who were handpicked by Jollibee and Star Records.

The 25-year-old fast-food chain has always promoted the education of Filipino children, coming up with various comprehensive programs for students in Metro Manila's public and private schools. Jollibee believes the future belongs to the young and it recognizes how important it is to nurture and encourage the child's early developing skills.

Jollibee hopes the VCDs will be effective learning tools that will entertain as well.

"Star Records approached us with a very good proposal about the educational videos and we built on their concept," says Reyes. "We had all materials checked by the Department of Education (DepEd)."

The full version (three volumes in one) is on sale in all major music stores across the Philippines for only P99. Inside the full-version VCD is a coupon for a free Jolly Krunchy Twirl.

Reyes notes that the VCDs that were initially part of Jollibee Kids Meal were sold quickly. "Star Records tells us the full-version VCDs are also moving fast in music stores." In view of this, Reyes says Jollibee is already planning to produce additional volumes with various themes.

The VCDs are available at all Jollibee outlets and record bars.

INEZ Reyes, jollibee's vice president for marketing

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INQUIRER COMICS Sunday

OCTOBER 16, 2005

1

e-mail feedback: arts@inquirer.com.ph

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BY MARC REYES & TAGA-ILOG

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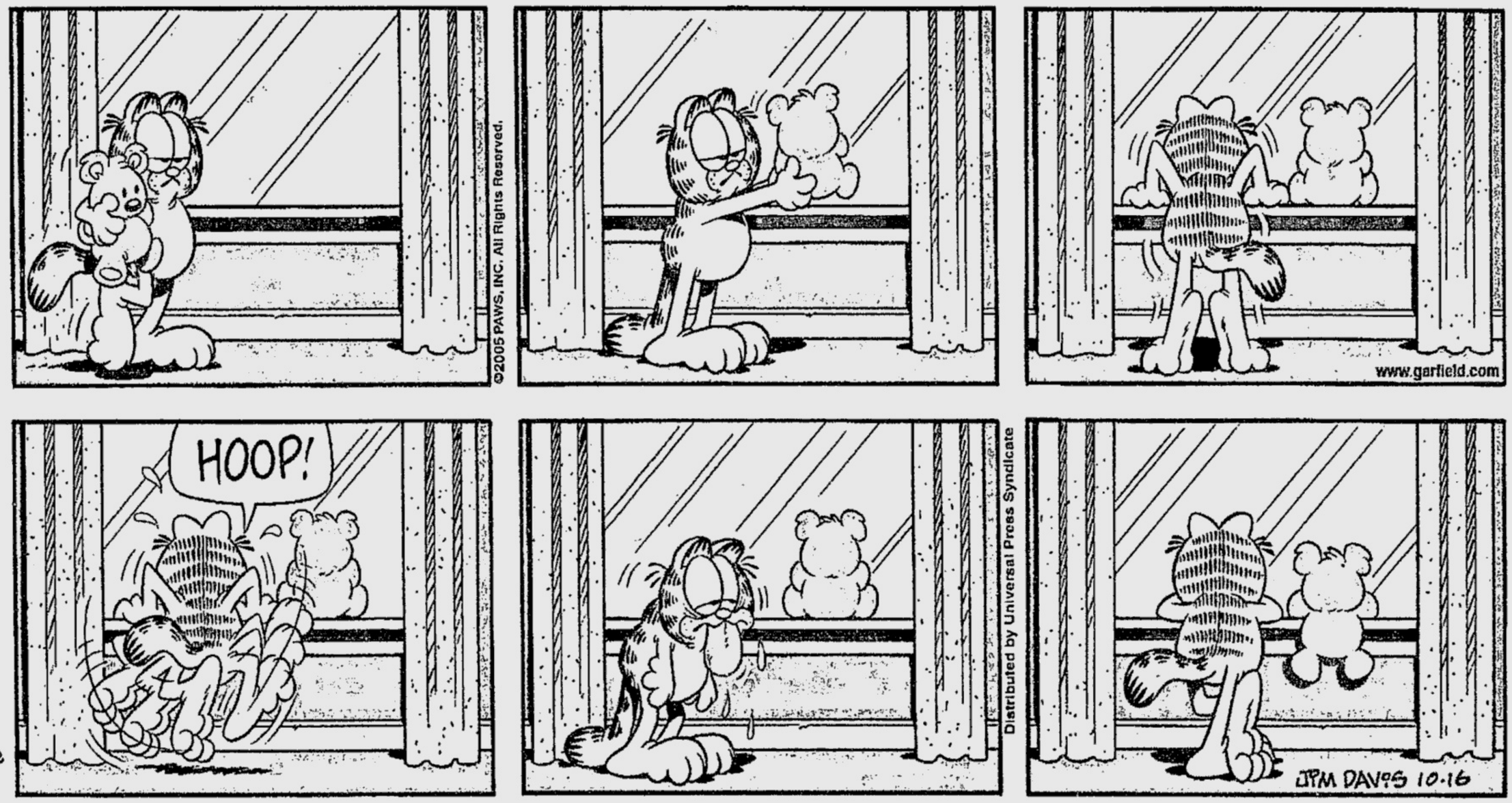
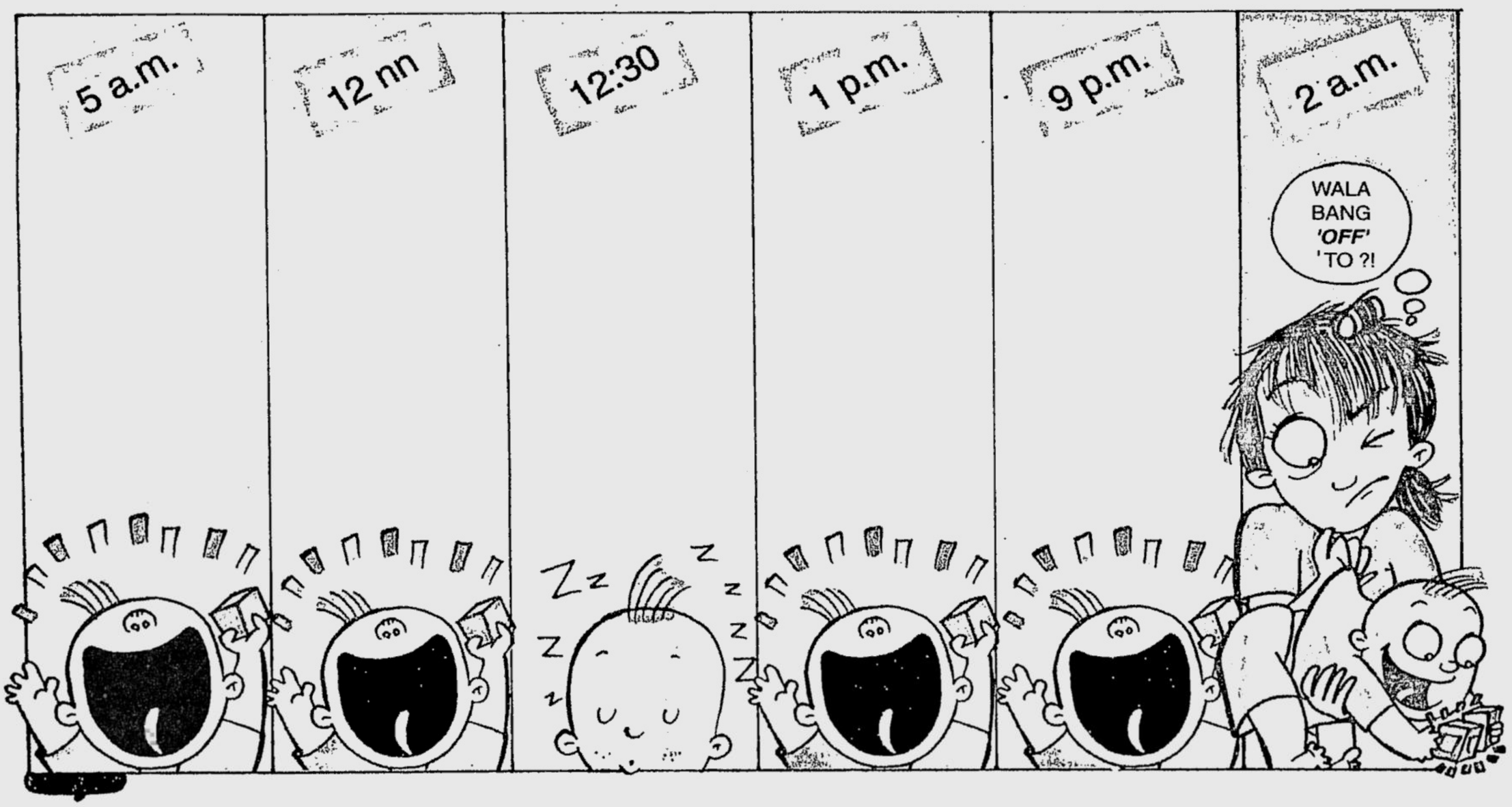
BY JIM DAVIS



FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO



B. TURN THE PAGE TO GET IT RIGHT

FOLLOW THE FOLD TO GET TO MIDCARD

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STEP OUT, STAND UP, SHAKE THE World. The latest campaign of Swatch, the world's best-loved watch, exhorts people to come together to do something different, to step out of the ordinary, to celebrate individuality. And that's exactly what Swatch, HSBC and the I Can Serve Foundation are doing at noon on Oct. 18 at People's Palace in Greenbelt 3, except they're out to shake the world for breast cancer. It is, after all, the month of breast cancer awareness. It will be fun, it will be light and it will be full of grace and hope, they promise.

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JOB Market

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005
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3 SECTIONS - 26 PAGES

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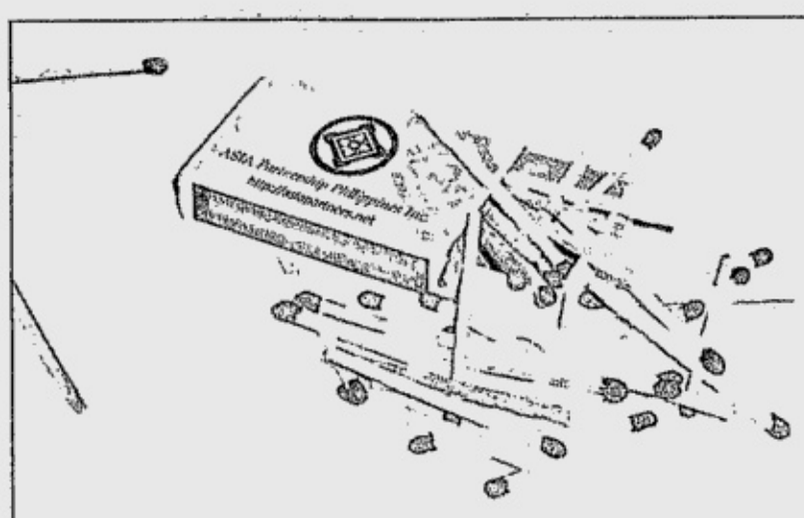

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Articulate, possessing strong leadership ability
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Smart, analytical, articulate and has excellent communication skills
Must be knowledgeable in designing training programs

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the exclusive distributor in the Philippines of Respironics, Inc of USA - Profile Respiratory Systems UK, the world leader in nebulization, with products preferred by doctors, nurses and respiratory therapists in major Metro Manila hospitals

We are in search of people who are

* career-oriented, with winning attitude
* graduates of 4-year college courses
* willing to learn and undergo training in Metro Manila

Send your resume, 2x2 photo, transcript of scholastic records, contact numbers and address not later than 28 October 2005 (Friday) to

InnoMED Systems, Inc
Unit 208 Continental Court Bldg
47 Annapolis St Greenhills San Juan, Metro Manila

Build your career with us.

Join our expansion program as

Sales Representatives

Expansion of Sales and Marketing activities in
* Metro Manila
* Luzon

We offer competitive salary, daily allowances, plus commissions and incentives

KOREA PLANT SERVICE & ENGINEERING CO., LTD.
PHILIPPINES BRANCH

JOB OPENING

Korea Plant Services & Engineering Co. Ltd (KPS) Phil Branch, subsidiary of KEPCO and KEPHILCO, one of the leading electro-mechanical firm in the world, is in need of a Marketing Executive and should have the following qualification:

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

- Should have any degree in a reputable university
- Applicants require to have fluency in English both in oral and verbal communication
- Must possess a good inter personal and intra-personal communication skill
- Should be willing to be assigned in different satellite office
- Should be not over 30 years of age and preferably single female
- Preferably computer literate
- With a good moral character

Php 20,000++ starting salary and still negotiable during interview depends on qualifications

All applicants should submit the following:

Resumé/CV
Certificate of Employment/Working Testimony
Educational Credentials
1.5x1.5 and whole body photo

By Mail: **210 ALPAP II Bldg. Trade St., Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City**

Thru e-mail: **kps_phils@yahoo.com**

Deadline of submission: **October 31, 2005**

Filinvest Leisure Group, the developer of The Palms Country Club in Alabang,has an upcoming high quality sports and nature club named ***TIMBERLAND SPORTS AND NATURE CLUB.***

It is a first-rate private membership club that offers a wide range of activities and amenities for the entire family. This club is a part of Timberland Heights, a resort town development of Filinvest Land just 15 minutes from Quezon City.

The Group is looking for:

MEMBERSHIP MANAGERS

Requirements:

- Graduate of a bachelor's degree in any field from a reputable school
- Highly motivated, flexible, assertive, and goal and result oriented
- Has at least two (2) years experience in sales preferably in a private club, hotel, real estate and related industries
- With existing business contacts as well as exceptional strength in uncovering business opportunities
- With above-average communication and interpersonal skills

We offer full-time employment, competitive compensation and benefits, generous commissions and continuous training programs to successful candidates.

Qualified applicants can email their resumes to recruitment_leisure@filinvestland.com or mail to: Maria Cecilia C. De Chavez, LEISURE PROJECT GROUP, FILINVEST LAND, INC. FDC Bldg, 173 P. Gomez St., San Juan, MM 1550, or call us at 927-9995.

Timberland
SPORTS and NATURE CLUB
FILINVEST
INVEST ON SOLID GROUND
www.filinvest.com.ph

The Transnational Diversified Group (TDG) is a Philippine-based conglomerate of dynamic and forward-looking corporations engaged in widely diverse businesses such as Total Logistics, Transportation, Shipping & Cargo Forwarding, Warehousing & Distribution, Ship Management, Maritime E-Training, Medical Services, Travel & Tours, Airline GSA, Aviation Services, Pre-Need Plans, Securities & Investments, Real Estate Development, IT & Business Process Outsourcing Services, E-Business Solutions, and related businesses.

We are looking for highly-motivated and top-caliber individuals to join our expanding organization.

LEGAL COUNSEL

- Candidate must be a graduate of Bachelor of Law
- Must be a Bar Passer
- With at least three (3) years of relevant work experience
- With knowledge in court litigation proceedings
- With knowledge in corporate (company and industry-specific) laws
- Must have excellent people, communication, customer service, negotiation, problem solving and decision-making skills
- Can relate very well with people in various levels of an organization and from various nationalities
- Male 28-35 years old

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

- Candidate must be a graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Industrial Engineering or any business or HR - related course
- With at least five (5) years relevant work experience in recruitment, labor relations, performance rewards and remuneration, benefits administration HR systems and employee development
- Must have excellent leadership and people skills
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communication

MAN RESOURCES OFFICER/ ASSISTANT

- Candidate must be a graduate of Psychology Behavioral Science, Industrial Engineering or any business or HR - related course
- With at least six (6) months relevant experience
- With knowledge in labor laws and HR policies
- Must have excellent customer service and interpersonal skills
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communication

SENIOR / JUNIOR AUDITORS

- Candidate must be a CPA
- Must have at least two (2) years related work experience, preferably in financial, systems and tax audit, or business process review
- Must be organized, systematic, results-oriented, can work with minimum supervision, and a good team player
- Must have high integrity and good judgment skills
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communication
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Willing to work on extended hours and travel outside Metro Manila

ACCOUNTANTS / ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

- Candidate must be a CPA (for Accountants) or a graduate of Accounting, Banking & Finance or any related course (for Accounting Staff)
- Must be organized, systematic and can work with minimum supervision
- Must have good people skills and a team player
- Knowledge in Great Plain System (GPS), an advantage
- Proficient in verbal and written communication
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER/ ASSISTANT

- Candidate must have a Bachelor's degree
- Preferably with at least one (1) year relevant work experience in purchasing
- With above average customer service and interpersonal skills
- With excellent communication and negotiation skills
- Knowledge in Great Plain System (GPS), an advantage
- Must have working knowledge of MS applications
- Must be organized, systematic, can work with minimum supervision
- Female, 21-30 years old

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- Candidate must be a graduate of Marketing, Management or any business-related course
- Freight forwarding or travel industry experience an advantage
- Must have excellent people and customer service skills
- Must be dynamic, creative and a good team player
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communication
- With driver's license an advantage
- Must have working knowledge of MS applications
- 22-30 years old

CHASSIS BILLING CLERK / TERMINAL ASSISTANT

- Candidate must be a graduate of Accounting or its equivalent, preferably with experience in taking the board exams
- At least 1-2 years relevant experience in the same capacity; fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Computer literate, knowledge in Great Plain System (GPS) an advantage
- Must have excellent communication skills
- Knowledge in driving, an advantage
- Male, 24-35 years old

WAREHOUSEMAN

- At least college level
- Must have at least one (1) year relevant experience
- Must have average communication skills
- Must have experience in forklift operation
- Male, 24-31 years old

RESERVATIONS & TICKETING AGENT / TRAVEL COUNSELOR

- Candidate must have a Bachelor's degree
- At least two (2) years experience with a travel agency/ airline/ GSA
- Must have knowledge in basic fare computations
- Must have good people and customer service skills
- With good personality and communication skills
- Must be female, 24-30 years old
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications and preferably in Amadeus syster

PROGRAMMERS / TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF

- Candidate must be a graduate of Computer Science, Information Technology or equivalent
- Preferably with at least one (1) year relevant work experience but fresh graduates are welcome
- Must have knowledge in data and systems analysis and design
- Must have knowledge in application development
- Must be proficient in .Net programming, Visual Basic, SQL/MSSQL, database management and MS Office applications
- Must have knowledge in networking / TCP/IP and software installation under Windows (all versions) and Linux environments
- Must be proficient in PC hardware and software troubleshooting
- Knowledge in systems administration / PABX an advantage
- Proficient in verbal and written communication

QUALITY OFFICER

- Candidate must have a Bachelor's degree, preferably computer related
- At least 1 to 2 years experience in ISO, TQM and Quality Management System
- With excellent knowledge in ICT and business processes
- With knowledge in project management, general planning and control in ICT environment
- Must have excellent people, communication, customer service, negotiation, problem solving and decision-making skills
- Can work with minimum supervision
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications and preferably in Amadeus system
- Male/ Female, 25-29 years old

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

- Candidate must be a graduate of Marketing Management or any business-related course
- With at least 2-3 years relevant work experience in selling IT products and services
- Must have excellent people and customer service skills
- Must be dynamic, creative and a good team player
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communication
- 22-30 years old

SYSTEMS DOCUMENTATION SPECIALIST

- Candidate must be a graduate of Computer Science or any business-related course
- With at least 1-2 years relevant work experience
- With experience in Software Life Cycle Development and in creating Technical and User Documentation
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communication
- Male/ female, 22-29 years old

MULTIMEDIA DOCUMENTATION SPECIALIST

- Candidate must be a graduate of any 4-year course, preferably BS Computer Science
- With at least 1-year relevant work experience in developing applications
- With experience in developing web-based applications, CBTs and presentations
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communication
- Male/ female, 24-29 years old

OPERATIONS MANAGER

- Candidate must have a Bachelor's degree
- With at least 2-3 years relevant experience in an IT company
- Must have excellent leadership and people skills
- With financial background and highly analytical
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communication
- Male/ female, 29-35 years old

Attractive compensation package, developmental opportunities, rewards and recognition programs, insurance and healthcare programs await successful candidates.

Interested applicants are requested to submit their comprehensive resumé with 2 pcs. 2x2 recent ID photos on or before Friday, 21 October 2005 to

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
TRANSNATIONAL DIVERSIFIED GROUP, INC.
2/F Mary Bachrach Bldg., cor. 25th & A.C. Delgado Sts., Port Area, Manila
(Behind the Manila Hotel)
Tel. No. 527-8888 or email us at hrd@tdgworld.com

ASIAN TERMINALS INCORPORATED

We are the country's premier port and logistics investor, developer and operator. As such, we are committed to deliver to Philippine business the world's best practice in services related to port operations and logistic for passengers, containers, general and bulk cargoes.

Operating in four of the Philippines' major seaports, Asian Terminals, Inc. (ATI) is managed by P&O Ports, a leading global port operator with 27 container terminals and logistics operations in over 100 ports in 18 countries.

ATI offers an assurance of consistent quality of management and of client service, all built on the 165 year-old reputation for excellence in maritime services of the P&O Group.

ATI is inviting dynamic and highly motivated individuals to join our company as:

Credit & Collection Manager

- Male/Female between 30 to 40 years of age
- Graduate of Accountancy course, must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- With at least 2-3 yrs experience in Credit & Collection preferably from a multinational company
- Knowledge in taxation is a must
- Must be proficient in MS Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint), MS Visio and Platinum System applications

HR Officer

- Male/Female
- Between 28 to 35 years old
- Graduate of AB/BS Psychology, Human Resources Management, Behavioral Science, preferably with masteral degree / units.
- Proficient in all facets of HR with at least 4 years spent on Supervisory level.
- Able to set-up HR procedures, company policies, recruitment and staffing, compensation, benefits program & organizational development.

Security Officer

- College Graduate preferably with security/ military background
- With 2 to 3 years experience in a supervisory capacity in the following areas: Security Management and/or Security Operations, Security Planning, Systems Design and Security Taskforce Management, preferably gained in a Corporate set-up
- Excellent communication skills (oral and written)

Marketing/Commercial Associate

- Male at least 22 to 30 years old
- Graduate of Industrial Engineering course
- With excellent interpersonal & communication skills
- Well-versed in port features, services, procedures and policies
- With related work experience in market research and reports, customer service and/or telemarketing
- Preferably with driver's license

HR Assistant

- Male/Female
- Between 22-26 years of age
- Graduate of AB/BS Psychology or Human Resources
- With at least 2 years work experience in various facets of HR particularly in benefits administration and employee relations

Special Project Analyst

- Male/ Female, between 25 to 30 years old
- Graduate of a Bachelor's/ College Degree in Accounting or Finance, preferably a CPA
- At least 2-3 year (s) of working experience in a corporate set-up, finance/ accounting related field

Senior Corporate Communications Officer

- Male/Female between 26 to 40 years of age
- Graduate of Public Relations, Mass Communication, or any four year Business course
- With at least 5 years experience in corporate communications work from a reputable organization.
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills & well developed interpersonal skills
- Established relationship/ network with local and international media, government and non-government organizations.

Senior Insurance and Claims Officer

- Male/ Female; between 23-35 years old
- Graduate of any four year Business course
- With at least 2 years experience in insurance and claims processing and documentation
- With excellent interpersonal & communication skills (oral and written)
- Fast learner and has keen attention to details

Safety Officer

- Graduate of any Engineering course from reputable college or university
- Male; (Strictly) not more than 40 years old
- With 2-4years supervisory experience in the following areas: Safety Management, Emergency Response Procedures, and Fire Safety, preferably gained in a Corporate set-up
- Must be an Accredited Safety Practitioner
- Excellent communication skills (oral and written)

Systems Analyst/ Programmer

- Male/Female, Between 25 to 35 years old
- Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, or any IT related course
- With relevant work experience in systems analysis, design and programming
- Proficiency in any of the following: Visual Basic, MS SQL, Java, Crystal Reports, Cache

Executive Assistant

- Female, between 22-30 years of age
- Graduate of any four year business course
- With at least 2 years work experience from a multinational company
- Willing to assist the executive office
- Above average oral & written communication skills
- Can effectively relate with people from different levels of management
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

Interested applicants may apply at:

ATI Head Office
A. Bonifacio Drive
Port Area, Manila
tel. no. 528-6000

or visit our website at www.asianterminals.com.ph

SALES EXECUTIVE

ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS
- Must be a BS Electrical Engineering Graduate
- 22 – 30 years old
- With at least 2 – 3 yrs experience in sales
- Can speak fluent English

MEDICAL PRODUCTS
- Must be a graduate of any medical course
- 22 – 30 years old
- With at least 2 – 3 yrs experience in sales Medical supplies
- Can speak fluent English

- Preferably graduate from a reputable school.

Interested applicants may contact us at:
HOLLEY INTERNATIONAL (PHILS.) OFFICE
Unit 1403 A West Tower, PSE Center
Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel.Nos. 636-1355.636-2942
Mobile: 09275003464
Contact Person: Queenie Cruz

Optech Machine Tools

URGENTLY NEEDED

FEMALE SECRETARY

(Willing to be assigned in Laguna or Malabon Plant)

Qualifications:

-At least College Graduate Of Any Course
-Computer Literate

Interested applicants are requested to submit personally their resumé w/ 2 X 2 picture at

Sooner Form Cmpd., Bo. Timbao, Biñan, Laguna
(1 KM away from Gate 3 Technopark, Beside San Antonio South Subd.)
from Mon.-Fri., from 8:00 A.M.-5:00 PM

Look for: Sherlyn Cañeso

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Richard Nielsen-Barrister & Solicitor / member-Law Society-BC will be in Mla Nov.21-26, 2005; FREE SEMINARS-Nov.21-25-6:30pm & Nov.26-10am
PRIORITY PROCESSING-INVESTORS (3-9 mos)-NOVA SCOTIA - NETWORTH OF $300K TO $799K, QUEBEC, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS & SPOUSES, PROVINCIAL NOMINEES (less1yr process), SKILLED WORKER-U$600 Special Package
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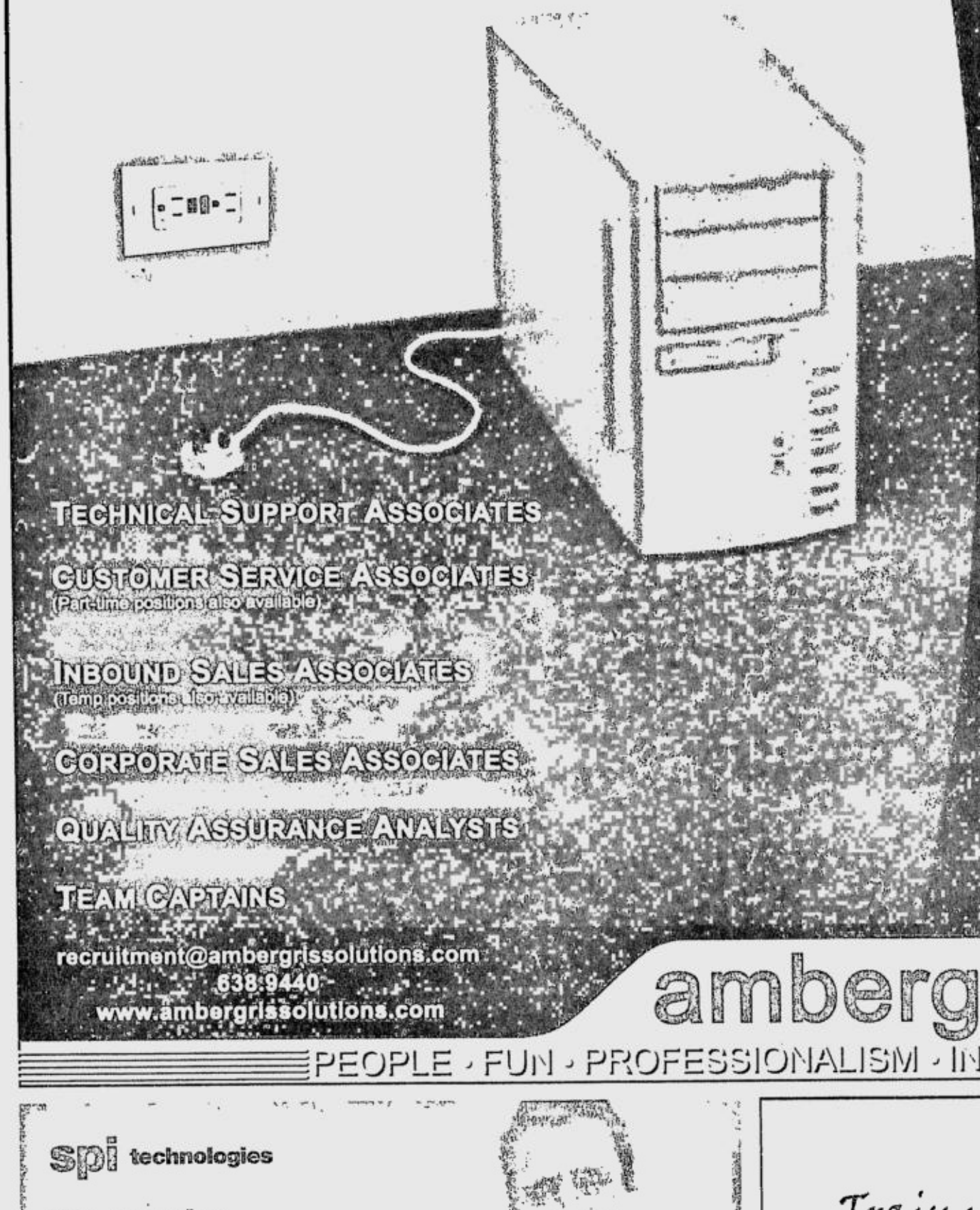

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ASSOCIATES

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATES
(Part-time positions also available)

INBOUND SALES ASSOCIATES
(Temp positions also available)

CORPORATE SALES ASSOCIATES

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638-9440
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October 17 - 21
12nn - 7pm
32nd Flr. Discovery Centre
ADB ave., Ortigas Center

October 17 - 21
12nn - 7pm
5th Level Market! Market!
Bonifacio Global City

October 18 - 19
1pm - 6pm
NETOPIA Shopwise
Cubao (INFRONT OF GATEWAY MALL)

October 20 - 21
8am - 3pm
SOMETHIN' FISHY
Eastwood Citywalk
Libis

October 24 - 25
1pm - 6pm
NETOPIA Greenbelt 1
Makati

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- HR Officer (SPI - Dumaguete)
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- Quality Assurance Supervisor
- Quality Assurance Team Leader
- Senior Programmer
- E-Submission Support Communicator
- Linux Administrator
- Data Technician
- Japanese Customer Service Associates
- Copywriter
- PDF Specialist/Research and Project Development Staff
- Content Abstractor/Auditor
- Files Management Staff
- Technical Support Staff
- Quality Assurance Staff
- Editorial Assistant

Go to the Computer Job Fair (Fifth) at our booth at the Jobz Expo on October 17-19, 2005 at the Glorietta Activity Center.

Or visit us at www.spi.tech.com, simply create your Career Profile powered by JobStreet and send your updated resume.

- Software Engineers
- Project Development Staff
- Quality Control Inspector
- Programmer
- Document Analyst
- HR Administrative Assistant
- Telephone Operator/Receptionist

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Magsaysay Training Center, a member of the Magsaysay Group of Companies - an acknowledged leader in the crew manning and ship management industries-- offers a wide variety of courses that will suit your needs...

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Housekeeping Service Training
Restaurant Service Training
Advance Bar Course

For those who want to upgrade their skills....
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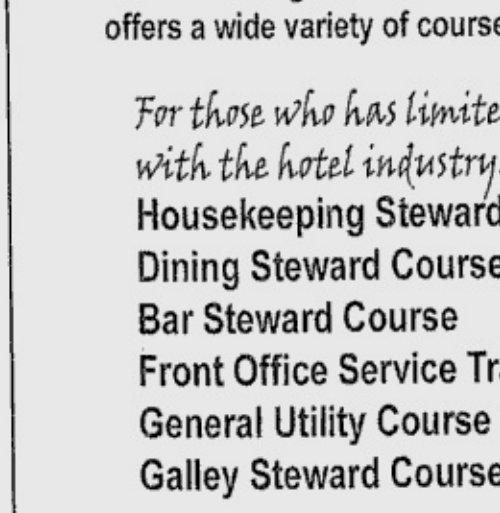
Personality Enhancement Training
Personality Dev't. & Public Relations
Foreign Languages



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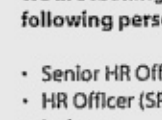

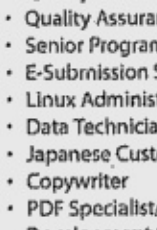

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Successful Applicants will have the following duties and responsibilities:

- Purchasing
- Administration and Inventory of Equipment and Facilities
- File Management
- Liaison to Government Agencies
- Payment of Utilities

Requirements:

- Female, 20 - 25 years old
- Graduate of any Business-related course
- Working experience an advantage
- Literate in MSOffice applications (Word & Excel)
- Good communication skills

If you're interested in hopping on board the Big Top team, do reach us at: 672-1694, 671-2528 (10AM-6PM) or +63922-5191703 look for Chris, or send resume to chris@praxi-inc.com

MANAGERIAL

SGV & Co

A MEMBER PRACTICE OF ERNST & YOUNG GLOBAL

Quality In Everything We Do

SGV & Co., a member practice of Ernst & Young Global, and the leading professional services firm in the country, invites suitable and qualified candidates to apply for the following positions:

LIBRARIAN

Graduate of BS Library Science or BS Education major in Library Science; Not more than 30 years old; Possesses above-average oral and written communication skills; Has pleasing personality and positive work attitude

MULTIMEDIA SPECIALIST

Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Advertising/Media or equivalent; Must be knowledgeable in graphic design, animation, web design, audio production, video editing, interactive CD authoring and basic photography; At least 1 year relevant work experience; Excellent oral and written communication skills; Good interpersonal skills and positive work attitude; Willing to work long hours

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS

University degree, preferably business-related course; At least 3-years relevant experience; Excellent typing skills and knowledgeable with MS Office; Excellent oral and written communication skills; Good interpersonal skills and positive work attitude; Willing to work long hours

Competitive compensation, benefits, world-class training and professional growth await the successful applicant.
To apply, email your resumé to **sgvhrd@ph.ey.com** or mail to:

Human Resources Group
3/F, SGV 1 Bldg.
6760 Ayala Avenue
Makati City 1226

Information Technology Personnel

- between 24-30 years old (Male/Female)
- with experience
- capable in designing/maintaining websites

Apply at: **FF-FL, Inc.**
2242 PIECO Building,
Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City
on Monday, 17 October 2005 at 10:00 am
Call: **840-5352 / 840-5343 look for Joyce**

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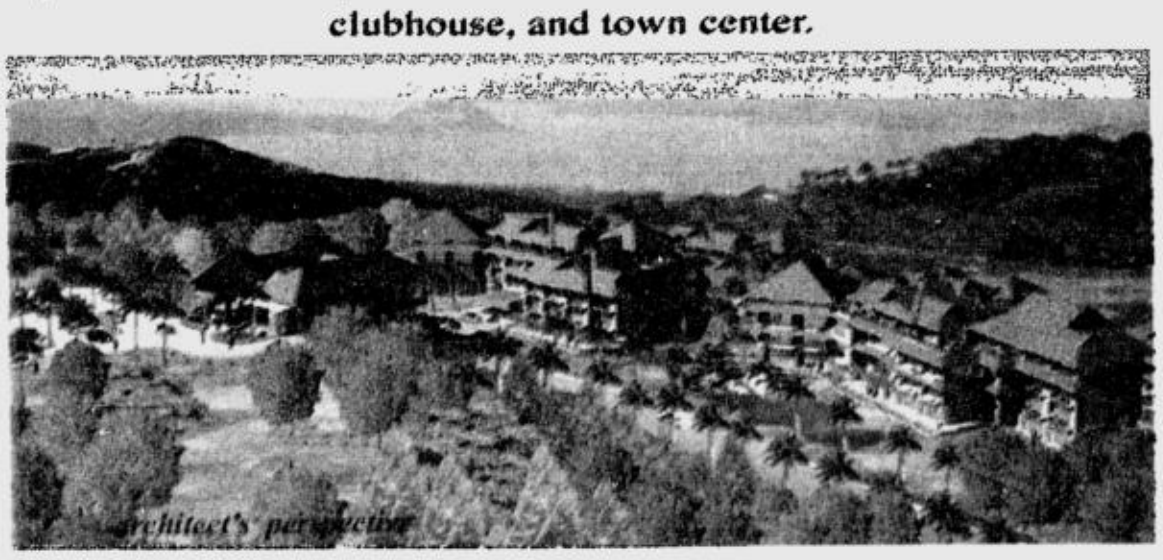

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CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER / GEN. MANAGER

To oversee the whole operations of a multi-billion company in the development of real estate properties. Must have extensive knowledge in marketing, operation, administration and finance. Can effectively communicate and deal with people.

We offer competitive remuneration package

Please send your comprehensive resume and 2x2 photo through chrd_alc@meridiantelekoms.net or mail to:

CENTRAL HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
5/F Domingo Bldg. III, 2113 Chino Roces Ave., cor. Dela Rosa St., Makati City

All Applications shall be treated with utmost confidentiality.

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- SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR
- QUALITY ASSURANCE SPECIALIST
- FINANCIAL ASSISTANT (CPA)
- CCNA/CCNP
- ANALYST/PROGRAMMER
- BUSINESS ANALYST
- ENGINEERS (Network/Facilities)
- BUSINESS DEV'T OFFICER
- HR ASSISTANT

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SEARCHERS & STAFFERS CORP

JOB OPENINGS

SL TEMPS

TELECOMS CUSTOMER CARE REP. / SALES ADMIN ASSISTANT / COUNTER SALES ASSISTANTS (Assignment will be in the major malls in Metro Manila and key cities of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao) – Male/female, graduates of any 4 year course, with pleasing personality & good communication skills.

CALL CENTER AGENTS (Inbound/Outbound) – Graduates of any 4 year course with above average oral and written communication skills. Must be computer literate.

TELEMARKETERS – Fresh Graduates with above average communication skills or undergraduates with at lest 6 months experience in telemarketing. Assertive and goal-oriented.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT AGENTS – Graduates of any 4-year IT related course. Excellent oral communication skills. Can handle customer inquiries over the phone.

ACCOUNTANTS / ACCOUNTING CLERKS – B.S. Accounting graduates preferably CPA with experience in any of the following: General Accounting, Payrolling, Payable/Disbursement, Accounts Receivables/ Collection, Cost Accounting and Financial Accounting, Bank Recon.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES / EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS – Graduates of any business course with at least one year experience as secretary. Must be personable, self-motivated and proficient in computer applications. Should possess good oral and written communication skills.

ADMIN ASSISTANTS – Bachelor's degree in any business field / Industrial Engineer / Commerce. Female not over 25 years old

HR STAFF – Graduates of Psychology or other social sciences course, with at least 6 months to 1-year experience in recruitment, training,compensation and benefits.

RECEPTIONISTS / FRONT DESK CLERKS – Graduates of any 4-year course with excellent English communication skills. Shall operate switchboard / PABX, process incoming calls and place calls as required. Must be highly customer-oriented

ACCOUNT / SALES EXECUTIVES – Graduates of any 4-year course. With at least 6 months field sales experience. Assertive and goal oriented.

SALES ASSOCIATES – At least 5'3" for female and 5'6" for male. With at least 2 years in college. Experience in retail is preferred. Presentable, customer oriented and with good communication skills.

PRODUCTION OPERATORS – At least 5'2" for female and 5'5" for male. High school graduate or college level. Not more than 28 years old. Previous work experience in the factory is preferred but not required. Assignment will be in Laguna.

OTHER POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

PHARMACISTS	GEN CLERKS	CASHIERS
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MERCHANDIZERS	COURIERS	BUTCHERS

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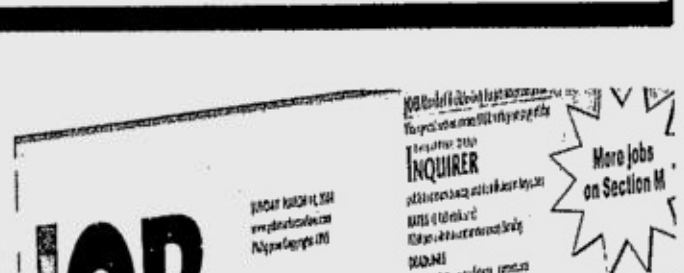

Bank on a better career

We invite you to fill in vacancies in Equitable Savings Bank Inc., a subsidiary of Equitable PCI Bank

We are currently looking for:

Tellers/New Accounts Clerk for Equitable Savings Bank
(for Antipolo, Magallanes (Makati), Batangas City, Cebu, Iloilo, Cavite, Davao, Bacolod, Zamboanga City, Lucena and Binan Branch)

- Graduate of a 4 year course, preferably business related course
- Preferably single, with pleasing personality
- Able to converse with people at any level/with good communication skills
- Customer - focused
- Self motivated

Operations Officer for Equitable Savings Bank
(for Antipolo, Magallanes (Makati), Batangas City, Cebu, Iloilo, Cavite, Davao, Bacolod, Zamboanga City, Lucena and Binan Branch)

Will be responsible for the daily operations of tellering, cashiering and ATM operations of the branch. Will also ensure prompt and efficient service delivery in compliance with the Bank's service standards and internal control

- Graduate of any business related course with good scholastic records
- Possesses excellent oral and written communication skills
- Analytical, motivated and with positive work attitude
- Knowledgeable in bank operations; with at least 3 years supervisory experience in bank or loan operations
- Customer - focused and results oriented

If you possess the above qualities, kindly send your resume with your latest photo and Transcript of Records to HRD-Recruitment 12/F Equitable PCI Bank Tower 1 Makati Avenue cor. H.V. Dela Costa St., Makati City or epcib.recruit@equitablepcib.com. For more details & other employment opportunities, kindly visit our website at www.equitablepcib.com.

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PLDT 1-800-188-84-911 and Digitel 1-800-333-84-911 (Provincial)
visit www.equitablepcib.com

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SENIOR ARCHITECTS/ SENIOR PROJECT COORDINATORS

- Preferably Male – LICENSED ARCHITECT Must have at least Eight (8) years work experience in detailing and construction drawing
- Articulate in English
- Knowledge of Arabic, Persian, Vietnamese and Chinese language would be an advantage
- Must be male, 30 – 40 years old
- Hardworking, can work long hours and on weekends
- Honest with Integrity
- Can work with pressure/with sense of urgency

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNERS / RENDERERS

- At least with five (5) yrs. work experience
- Male/Female Architecture graduate
- Knowledge of Arabic, Persian, Vietnamese and Chinese language would be an advantage
- Hardworking, willing to be assigned abroad / can work long hours and on weekends
- Proficient in AUTOCADD

PROFESSIONAL ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

- Must be PROFESSIONAL ELECTRICAL ENGINEER
- Preferably Male, 40 yrs. old & above
- Experienced in Horizontal & Vertical design
- Knowledge of Construction supervision, monitoring and project implementation.
- Knowledge of Electrical works evaluation
- Knowledge in MS Excel
- Willing to be assigned abroad

FRONT DESK OFFICERS

- Female, 25 - 30 yrs. old
- College graduate
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Articulate in English and with pleasing personality
- Hardworking, can work long hours and on weekends
- Computer literate
- Honest with Integrity

SANITARY ENGINEERS

- Preferably Male, 40 yrs. old & above
- Must be LICENSED SANITARY ENGINEER
- With at least 15 yrs. experienced in Design and supervision
- Must be honest and hardworking
- Willing to work long hours and on weekends
- Knowledge of AUTOCADD & other Engineering softwares an advantage

PROFESSIONAL MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

- Must be professional Mechanical Engineer
- Preferably Male, 40 yrs. old & above
- Experienced in Horizontal & Vertical design With knowledge in Mechanical work evaluation
- Knowledge of Fire protection piping system
- Knowledge in Ms Excel
- Must be presentable, honest with integrity
- Can work long hours

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

- Must be LICENSED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
- Must have at least 10 yrs. work experience
- Creative in conceptualization
- Articulate in English
- Proficient in AUTOCADD /COREL / ADOBE PHOTOSHOP
- Can prepare plans from Design to Construction Drawings
- Honest with Integrity
- Willing to work long hours and on weekends

SENIOR MASTER/URBAN/ ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS

- Male/Female, 30 – 40 yrs. old
- Licensed ARCHITECT/Licensed Environmental Planner an advantage
- With Planning & Business orientation skills
- Knowledge of AUTOCADD, Presentations, Designs and conceptualization
- Has positive outlook, aggressive and creative
- Excellent communication skills
- Honest with Integrity

CADD DESIGNERS/OPERATORS

- At least three (3) yrs. work experience
- Male/Female BS Architecture graduate
- Articulate in English and/Arabic, Persian, Vietnamese and Chinese language will be an advantage but not required
- Hardworking, willing to be assigned abroad/ can work long hours and on weekends
- Proficient in AUTOCADD

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

- Must be LICENSED CIVIL ENGINEER
- Must have at least (3) yrs. work experience in the following trades:
  - A. Structural Design using:
    - a.1 Manual Calculations
    - a.2 Knowledge of STAAD pro,
  - B. Quantity Cost Estimation
- Must be at least 25 yrs. old & above
- Knowledge of AUTOCADD would be an advantage
- Must be hardworking and trustworthy
- Must be articulate in English
- Willing to be assigned abroad

QUANTITY SURVEYORS

- Must be LICENSED CIVIL ENGINEER
- Must have at least five (5) yrs. experience in cost estimation and quantity surveying
- Knowledge of construction supervision, project monitoring and implementation is a must
- Knowledge in MS Office and PRIMAVERA software would be an advantage
- Must be hardworking and trustworthy and willing to be assigned abroad
- Must be articulate in English and must possess excellent communication skills

PLANNING/SCHEDULING ENGINEERS

- Must be LICENSED ENGINEER with at least 10 yrs. work experience
- Male, 35 – 45 yrs. old
- Willing to be assigned abroad
- Excellent in oral & written communication
- Must be computer literate (CADD/MS Office)
- Must be hardworking and trustworthy

Interested applicants may send in their resumé with recent 2X2 picture, a copy of Transcript of Records and NBI Clearance to the address below indicating the position applied for:

HUMAN RESOURCES UNIT
MCPO BOX 1515
City of Makati

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We are in need of the following:

Technical Support Representatives – Level 1 (Job code: TSR-PDI)
- Solid IT background and excellent hardware, software and network troubleshooting skills
- At least 1 year of call center experience providing IT support
- Good customer service orientation
- Excellent spoken English
- Willing to work on different shifts

Technical Trainer (Job code: Train-PDI)
- At least one (1) year experience in developing, organizing, and delivering training modules for the following technologies: MS Operating system and hardware, networking, customer service, telephone and help desk-call center skills.
- Help desk/call center background

Team Leaders (Job code: TL-PDI)
- At least two (2) years of call center experience as Team Leader, preferably handling a technical account
- Solid IT knowledge and background
- Excellent problem-solving skills
- Excellent spoken and written English communication skills
- Demonstrable ability to lead and manage a team of Technical Support Representatives in achieving required output, quality and productivity
- Willing to work on different shifts

Other positions:
- IT Support Supervisor (Code: ITSUP-PDI)
- Program Support Officer (Code: PSO-PDI)
- QA Specialists (Code: QA-PDI)
- Workforce Management Specialists (Code: WFM-PDI)

Apply at jobs.ph@siemens.com or visit:

Eastwood City Cyberpark Recruitment Center
Siemens, Inc.
23/F Cyber One Building
Eastwood City Cyberpark
1110 Libis, Quezon City
Tel: 667-3068 Fax: 814-9988

Makati Recruitment Office
Siemens, Inc
16/F Salcedo Tower
169 H.V. Dela Costa St.
Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City
Tel: 878-9495 / 878-9496 Fax: 878-9400

PLEASE INDICATE THE JOB CODE

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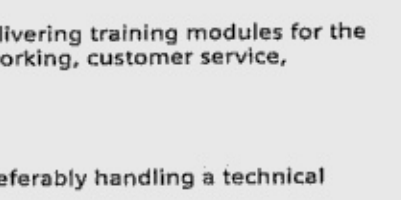

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We will be at
The Robinson's Mall in Los Baños, Laguna
On October 22, 2005 for a
1 Day Recruitment Hiring Activity

TO APPLY, VISIT US AT OUR MAKATI OFFICE: 11/F Tower 2, RCBC Plaza Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City. Please bring an updated resume with photo.

YOU MAY ALSO VISIT OUR ALABANG RECRUITMENT OFFICE STARTING OCTOBER 3, 2005: Unit 102 Ground Floor Kennedy Center, Prime Street, Madrigal Business Park Ayala Alabang Muntinlupa City. FOR INQUIRIES PLEASE CALL 755-1600

INFO NXX

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We are looking for:

ACCOUNT/LOAN OFFICERS

- Must be graduate of a business related course
- Must have 2-3 years related experience in account solicitation of auto, housing & salary loans
- Must have very good communication skills
- Preferably not more than 32 years old and residents from Metro Manila and Pangasinan

CREDIT REVIEW OFFICERS

- Must be a Business or Economics course graduate
- Must have very good communication and writing skills
- Preferably not more than 35 years old
- Must have experience in handling consumer loans like Auto, Salary and Real Estate loans
- Must have working knowledge on credit policies and procedures, documentation requirements and collection to be well equipped in the effective conduct of credit review

PROGRAMMER/ANALYSTS

- Must have at least 2 years of progressive responsible experience in the PC-based system applications design, analysis, development and maintenance work with relevant exposure to banking operations
- Must be knowledgeable in various programming languages specially Visual Studio.Net, ASP.Net and Java
- Must be well versed in any web and object oriented development tool
- Must be graduates of any IT related courses
- Preferably not more than 30 years old

OTHER POSITIONS:

HR STAFF, TELLER, NEW ACCOUNTS CLERK, ACCOUNTING STAFF

Send your application letter, resume, transcript of records, diploma and 2x2 photo on or before October 31, 2005 to:

Position: _____
THE RECRUITMENT OFFICER
RCBC Savings Bank - Human Resources Management Division
1806B 18th Floor, West Tower, Tektite Bldg., Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Email Address: jchavez@rcbcsavings.com

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A Well-Established, Leading Supplier of High Quality Electrical, Industrial & Lighting Products is Looking for Dynamic, Career-Oriented Individuals for Immediate Hiring

PRODUCT SPECIALISTS/MANAGERS

Male/Female, not more than 35 yrs old, at least 3 years experience with proven track record of success with sales and product management of electrical or lighting products. Will be responsible for formulating and implementing sales/product promotion strategies and programs to expand market and develop new customers as well as managing and motivating sales team to meet its monthly group sales target. Knowledge of Chinese an advantage but not required. Compensation package commensurate to experience and qualifications.

SALES EXECUTIVES / ENGINEERS

Male/Female, not more than 35 yrs old. At least 2 years sales experience either in industrial/ commercial/ projects or institutional accounts. Result-oriented, hardworking and trustworthy. With pleasing personality and excellent communication skills. Ability to speak Chinese an advantage but not required. Above industry salary + performance incentives for selected candidates.

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

Female, 28- 42 yrs. old. Preferably CPA, at least 6 years of work experience as supervisor or senior accounting staff. Knowledgeable in all phases of accounting work, financial and operational audits, preparing various accounting and financial reports, statements and correspondences, can implement policies and internal controls and manage staff; computer literate and exposed to computerized accounting system and can communicate proficiently in English and Chinese.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS

FOR VP FINANCE

Female, 24-32 yrs. Business/Finance/Accounting Graduate with at least 2 yrs. relevant work experience to work with VP-Finance in setting up and maintaining a system that ensures controls and implementation of policies in all financial activities related to sales, purchasing, cash transactions, disbursement, payments, monitoring and auditing of transactions, communications/coordination with different departments. Proficient in MS Office and can communicate proficiently in English and Chinese.

FOR PURCHASING

Female, 24-32 yrs. old. Business graduate, at least 2 years relevant work experience as purchaser/buyer and knowledgeable in canvassing,/negotiating with suppliers. Highly organized and detail-oriented, flexible and can work under pressure. Must be able to communicate well in English and Chinese.

FOR BUSINESS EXPANSION

Male/Female, 25-32 years old. Graduate of Management / Business / Marketing / Journalism/ Communications. At least 2 years experience in market research, business analysis, presentations, project management, preferably with writing experience in business plans, project briefs, activity reports and press releases. Must have **EXCELLENT** oral and written English skills, proficient in MS Office applications; ability to work with people at all levels of an organization and handle numerous simultaneous tasks. Knowledge of Fukien or Mandarin an advantage but not required.

FOR SALES / ADMIN SERVICES

Female, 24-32 yrs old. Graduate of Management, Marketing, Business, Communications, or Journalism. At least 2 years related work experience in sales/office administration and can handle inter-department communication, invoicing, quotation, preparation of reports, minutes of the meeting, business correspondences. Knowledge in inventory and preparation of price list an advantage.

Interested applicants are invited to apply personally with comprehensive resumé, TOR, employment certificates and colored photo (2 x 2) or e-mail application to **hrd@zenithinternational.ph**

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Look for Mr. Angelo P. Villanueva / Ms. May Anne Gutierrez

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Ortigas Business Complex, Pasig City, Philippines 1600
Tel. (632) 860-0000

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Baguio City Economic Zone, Loakan Road, Baguio City, Philippines 2600
Tel. (074) 446-7410

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- Female, college graduate
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- B.S. Architecture, Fine Arts
- Pleasing Personality

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

JOB Market

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005
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Accent and Conversational English Coach
Operations Training Representative
Training Coordinator
HR Generalist
HR Coordinator
Payroll Manager
Purchasing Specialist
Accounts Payable Analyst (English, Spanish/Portuguese Speaking)
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Tech Support Associate
Site Technology Lead

for Novaliches

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Account Manager
Team Leader
Workforce Supervisor
Workforce Specialist
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Verification Supervisor
Quality Assurance Specialist
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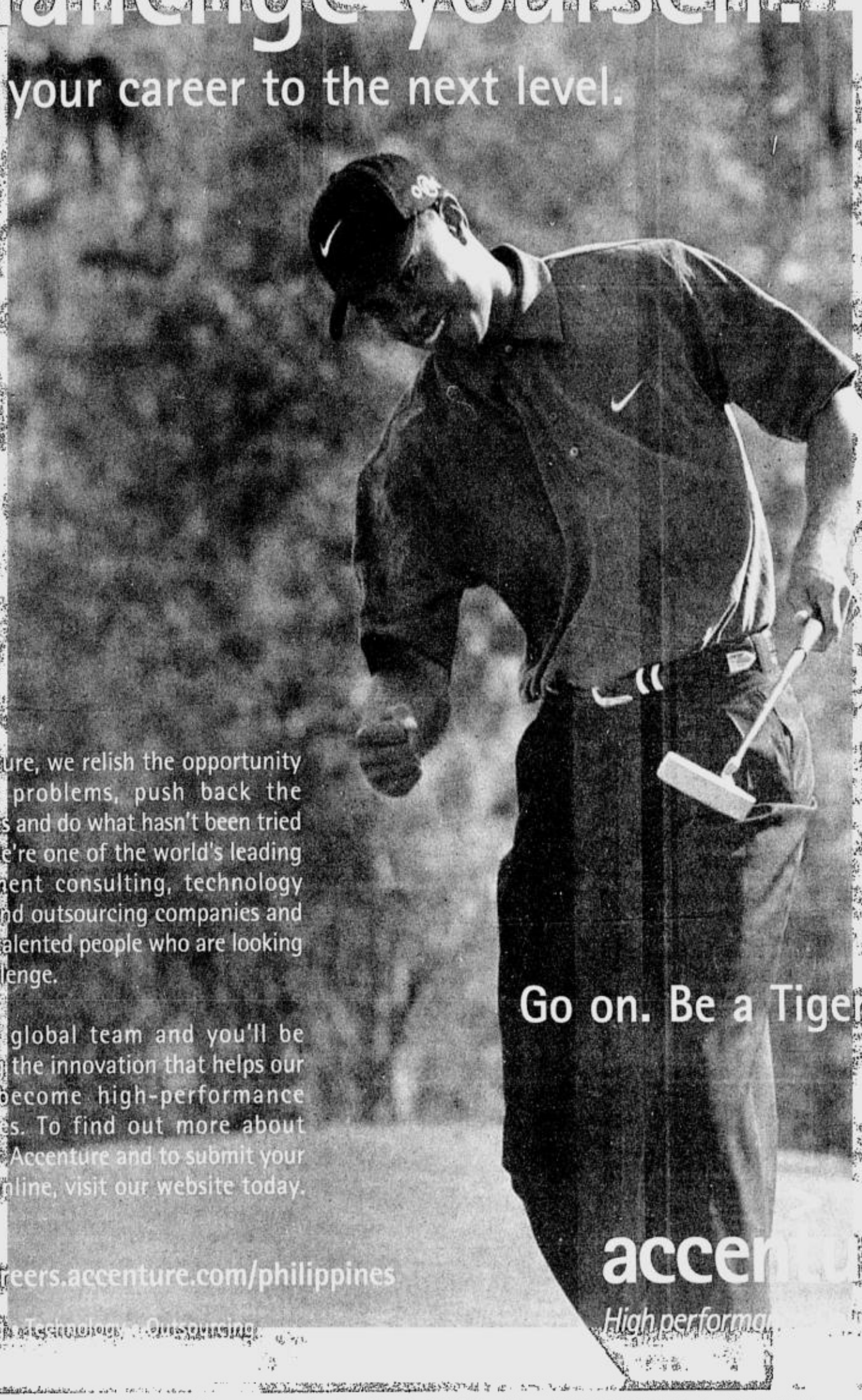

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(Passenger Services/Cargo Services)

- Male/Female 20 to 25 yrs. old
- At least 5'3" in height
- College Graduate
- Service oriented and willing to learn new skills
- Good moral character presentable appearance
- Good command of English both oral and written
- Smart and Enthusiastic,
- With high sense of responsibility
- Willing to work on shift schedule, weekends and holidays

MANDARIN - CANTONESE INTERPRETER/ CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS
(Passenger Services)

- Male or Female, 20 to 30 yrs. old
- At least 5'3" in height
- College graduate
- Service-oriented and willing to learn new skills
- Good moral character and presentable in appearance
- Good command of English both oral and written
- Mandarin/Cantonese speaking
- Smart and enthusiastic
- With high sense of responsibility
- Willing to work on night schedule, weekends and holidays
- Computer Literate
- With general salesmanship ability

OPERATIONS AGENT

- Male or Female
- College graduate, presentable appearance
- Good knowledge in geography
- Computer Literate
- Service oriented
- Good command of English both oral and written
- Good mathematical understanding
- With high sense of responsibility
- Has the ability to deal with people
- Willing to work on night schedule, weekends & holidays
- Maintain good performance under stress

FLIGHT DISPATCHER

- Male, not more than 30 years old
- College graduate preferably of BS Aeronautical/ Aerospace Engineering Course
- ATO Licensed or its FAA equivalent
- Computer Literate
- Good command of English both oral and written
- Good mathematical understanding
- With high sense of responsibility
- Service oriented
- Has the ability to deal with people
- Willing to work on night schedule, weekends & holidays
- Maintain good performance under stress

EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

- At least 3 years driving experience
- With professional driver's license
- In good physical condition, good eyesight
- Willing to work on shift schedule weekends & holidays
- Good moral character with high sense of responsibility
- With experience in heavy equipments is advantage

Please send your resume with contact telephone number and ID picture at:

3rd Floor PAIR PAGS Center Ninoy Aquino International Airport, NAIA Ave. Pasay City email ad: e_calaminos@globeground.com.ph

We want you to be a part of our dynamic TEAM

Structural Design Engineers (*) – Min 3 years experience in any of the following specialties: Structural Steel or Pre Engineered Steel Building. Preferably Registered Civil/Structural Engineers but not required

Structural Steel Detailers (*) – Min 3 years experience in any of the following specialties: Structural Steel or Pre Engineered Steel Building detailing.

Structural Steel Checkers – Min 3 years experience in Checking detailed shop/fabrication drawings. Should has a min 3 years experience as Steel Detailer

Xsteel Operators – Min 3 years experience in Xsteel Detailing

– For the first three (3) items, it is advantage to be an Engineering Degree Holder. For those interested applicants, send your comprehensive resumé at the address below indicating the desired/expected salary.
– (*) Applicant which below the required experience can also be considered, if they are willing to undergo an on-the-job in-house training.

Attention : Administrative Officer
P.O. Box # 13986, Ortigas Center Post Office, Posig City 1605

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- designed to prepare Management Trainees to take on the responsibilities of Bank officers
- provides rigorous academic and on-the-job training towards technical, behavioral, and supervisory competence in banking operations

Qualifications

- Graduates (preferably honor graduates)/graduating students of the following disciplines/courses: business, engineering, accounting, economics, statistics, mathematics
- With above average scholastic standing
- With strong leadership potential
- Team player
- Oriented to good values
- With excellent oral and written communication skills
- Interested in pursuing a banking career
- Not more than 30 years old

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumé and relevant documents to:

The Head, Human Resource Management
P.O. Box 1996, Makati Central Post Office 1200

JOB OPPORTUNITY

BUSINESS SPECIALIST- MAMTI Philippines

The Marine Aquarium Market Transformation Initiative (MAMTI) is a major project focused on coral reef fisheries and trade reform in Indonesia (Bali) and the Philippines. The objective of the project is to replace destructive collection practices for marine aquarium fish and corals in these countries with an ecologically and economically sustainable approach.

The project is focused almost entirely on the site/village level, and will build the capacity of a significant number of aquarium fish collector groups and their communities to conform with the Marine Aquarium Council (MAC) Standards.

The project brings together three NGOs: the Reef Check (RC), the Marine Aquarium Council (MAC) and the Conservation and Community Investment Forum (CCIF).

CCIF is tasked with the development of business skills and finance mechanisms for aquarium fish collectors, and is in urgent need of a Business Specialist (Microfinance Liaison).

Job Description:

The Business Specialist (BS) will work under the direction of the Business Development Manager. The BS will be primarily responsible for delivering the site specific development/training in the field. While the job is largely Makati-based, the BS will work with sites on a roving basis to provide initial and ongoing capacity building. The BS will undertake capacity building of collectors' organizations/coops in areas such as business and accounting skills - ensuring that collectors have sufficient financial resources and business skills. Further, the BS will liaise with microfinance institutions (MFIs) for the financing needs of the collectors' business units.

Qualification Requirements:

1. At least a university degree in business management, fisheries, community development or related fields. A graduate degree is an advantage;
2. At least 10 years work experience with a minimum of 5 years in development work. Involvement in developing coastal enterprises, particularly with microfinance as the main lending mechanism, is an advantage;
3. Proficient in written and oral English;
4. Other than Tagalog, eloquence in Cebuano or Hiligaynon is an advantage; and
5. Proficient in Microsoft Office applications, particularly Word, Excel and Powerpoint

Term: Annual contract and renewable within the 5-year duration of the MAMTI.

Salary: Salary and benefits are competitive and based on qualifications.

For those interested, please send your application letter and resume thru email (maloumendoza_bs@yahoo.com) to Miss Marilou D. Mendoza, Conservation and Community Investment Forum not later than 21 October 2005.

The resume should include the applicant's background, relevant experience and contact details of character references.

Only short-listed candidates will be scheduled for interview.

PILIPINAS NM, INC.

PILIPINAS NM, INC., a pioneer manufacturer of Battery Separator in the Philippines, invites qualified applicants to fill-up its vacancies at its office and manufacturing plant at First Cavite Industrial Estate, Langkaan, Dasmariñas, Cavite.

PRODUCTION CONTROL ASST.

Male or female, 25 - 30 years of age; college graduate preferably in business, engineering or arts & sciences; able to read, speak, write and make correspondence in all kinds of Japanese languages; computer-literate; 2 years work experience in purchasing, familiar with import/export handling and PEZA/customs regulations; highly organized; good leadership skills; can relate with people at all levels

PRODUCTION CONTROL STAFF

Male or female, not over 25 years of age; graduate of business, engineering or arts & science course; at least 1 year experience in purchasing work; familiar in import/export and PEZA & customs rules and regulations; computer-literate; highly organized; fast learner.

ACCOUNTANT

Accounting graduate, CPA, male or female, 21- 28 years of age, at least 2 years related work experience in a manufacturing company; knowledgeable in the preparation of Financial Statements; computer-literate; highly organized and with keen eyes to details; familiarity with PEZA/ customs rules & regulations, an advantage.

The company offers competitive salary / benefits package and progressive opportunities. Qualified applicants may send their comprehensive Resumes with most recent photo & tel. nos. to:

HUMAN RESOURCES & ADM. DEPARTMENT
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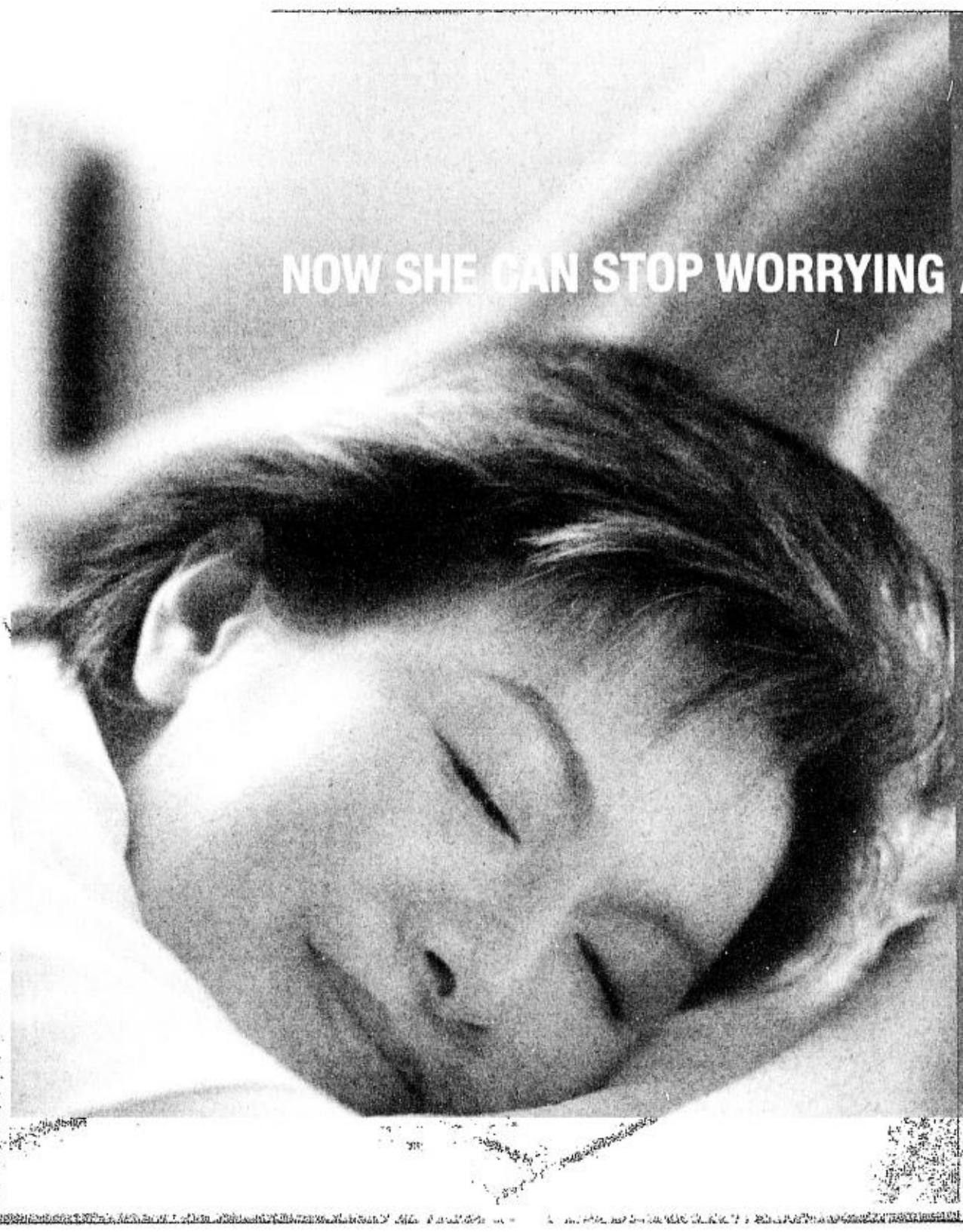
Tel. Nos. (046)402-0424 / 0329; Fax No. (046)402-0528
E-mail: santpnm@info.com.ph



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- Call center experience is an advantage

Support & Leadership Posts

- Customer Care Specialists (speaks Japanese)
- Operations Managers
  - Telecommunications
  - Travel
  - Internet Shopping
- Team Leaders
- Workforce Manager
  - Workforce Management Specialist
- Quality Manager
  - Quality Management Systems
- Quality Assurance Specialists
- IT Helpdesk Manager
- Quality Consultant (speaks Thai)
- HR Manager

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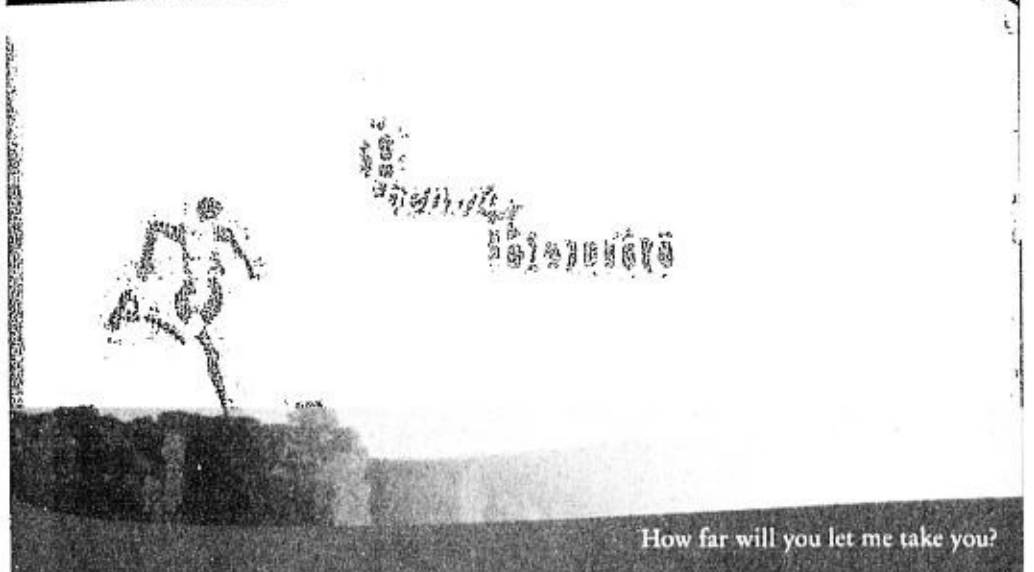
PDI Jobz Expo Glorietta Activity Center	October 17 - 19, 2005 10 AM - 8 PM
Netopia SM North 3 2/F Unit AX 223, Annex Bldg., SM City North EDSA, EDSA corner North Avenue, Brgy. Bagong Pag-asa, Quezon City	October 18 - 19, 2005 10 AM - 6 PM
Netopia Metropoint 2 4/F Space 408-409, Metropoint Mall EDSA corner Taft Avenue and Zamora Streets, Pasay City	October 20 - 21, 2005 10 AM - 6 PM

I am SYKES



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HR_Cebu@mail.ph.sykes.com
or visit us at our HR Recruitment Office

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Jerome Boulevard
New Manila, Quezon City 1112

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- Call Center AVPs and Directors
- Trainers
- Training Managers
- Workforce Analysts
- Workforce Managers
- Multilingual Agents (Spanish, Mandarin, Fookien, French, Korean, Japanese, etc.)
- Technical Support Representatives

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES (Regular Business Hours):

- Screening Associates
- Customer Service Associates (with medical / pharmaceutical background)

OUR MULTINATIONAL CALL CENTER CLIENTS ARE LOCATED IN:

- Alabang
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- Novaliches
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- Pasay
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Fax: +(63 2) 892-5165

ALABANG Office (near Ford Alabang):
Unit 502, Southgate Building
Blk. 6 Lot 5 Finance Avenue, Madrigal Business Park,
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Trunkline: +(63 2) 772-4307 to 09
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E-mail: info.3i@Q2HRS.com
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JOB Market

URGENTLY NEEDED FOR STORE AND OFFICE EXPANSION:

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- **MARKETING MANAGER** (Mktg Graduate w/ MBA Degree)
- **HUMAN RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER**
- **QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER** (Nutrition, Biology Grad)

All Managerial positions must possess at least 2 years of solid management experience in the food and beverage industry

- **ACCOUNTING CLERK** (Must be willing to work in Makati and Dasmariñas Area)
- **SALES ASSOCIATE** (Front liner Promodiser, Merchandiser) 5'4" Female & 5'7" Male,white complexion & at least w/ experience in Retail & Clothing Industry
- **ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE** (Graduate of any 4-year course preferably Architecture, IT and Marketing Must have an above average communication skills both oral and written)

All interested applicants may apply in person with your comprehensive resumé w/ colord 2x2 picture and TOR for the College Graduates at:

Unit 305 3/F Topaz Bldg #99-101 Kamias Road, Quezon City
Tel. No.: 435-1058/0919-5938773-0919-3052154
E-mail Address: servitrust@yahoo.com

WANTED BY A LEADING MANUFACTURER OF AUTOMOTIVE PARTS

ACCOUNTING HEAD

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Finance/Accounting/ Banking or equivalent
- At least 5 years working experience in related field is required for this position
- Applicants must be willing to work in Alabang
- Applicant must be Filipino citizen or hold relevant residence status
- Preferably supervisor / 5 years & up experienced employees specializing in Finance, General/Cost Accounting or equivalent
- Full-time positions available

SALES SUPERVISOR (AUTOMOTIVE AFTERMARKET)

- Female, not over 26 years old
- Must have relevant experience in sales & marketing
- Self starter, aggressive and very pleasing personality
- Knowledge in business development focusing in improvement of sales through expanding distribution channel
- Must know basic dealer development such as implementation if incentive program for dealers and dealer sales personnel
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

SHOWROOM PERSONNEL

- Female; not over 25 years old
- Fresh graduates are welcome
- Attractive with very pleasing personality
- Good customer orientation
- Excellent communication skills

Interested applicants must sent their comprehensive resumé with recent ID picture at Las Piñas City post office PO Box No. 0192, Las Piñas City or e-mail: hrd_greatjob@yahoo.com

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VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMICS
Male or Female; Masters Degree in Information Technology is a must; Extensive experience in a college/university or equivalent is an advantage; Not more than 45 years old

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
Male or Female; Not more than 45 years old; At least 3-years extensive experience in sales and marketing management

COLLEGE DEAN
Male or Female; Not more than 45 years old; Masters/Phd in Business Administration and/or Information Technology is a must; At least 5-years experience in the academe and/or school administration

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER
Male or Female; Not more than 45 years old With at least 3-years experience in Human Resource Management; A degree/unit in Law is an advantage

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Oxfam

Oxfam GB's purpose is to work with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering

Oxfam Great Britain's Philippine Programme needs a

Temporary Programme Officer
(Assets and Markets Programme)

In line with Oxfam Great Britain's mission and aims especially on "Securing Livelihoods for Poor Men and Women," to work directly with Assets and Markets Programme (AMP) Coordinator and other programme staff in planning, implementing and monitoring on-going projects, including contributing to the development of gender mainstreaming and gender specific projects by AMP partners as well as to provide administrative and programme support to the AMP PC.

Key Responsibilities:

- Assist in enhancing the implementation and developing innovations in the AMP especially in on-going projects with work around increasing access, control and sustainable management of communities' resources, developing and/or enhancing viable community enterprises and livelihoods, including access and power in the market, gender mainstreaming, advocacy and others.
- Together with partners, help develop and/or strengthen projects' strategies and community initiatives that contribute to food and income security, gender equality and effective local governance in rural communities
- Ensure that all Oxfam work addresses gender inequality, including assisting NGOs/POs in gender programme planning and implementation
- Provide support to Oxfam partner NGO's/POs through regular visits and dialogues, giving attention to the following:
  - Appraising, monitoring (including finance) and evaluating projects
  - Identifying needs for learning and development, acting as resource person and/or locating resource persons or consultants who can assist with strategic planning, programme development, organizational and institutional strengthening, financial management and gender mainstreaming
  - Networking of partners (and non-partners) to broaden programme/impact reach and facilitate cross learning
  - Provide support and guidance to partners in relation to internal management issues including financial and personnel issues, campaigning and advocacy activities.
- Prepare written reports on all interactions with partners including regular visit reports for use in the Philippines, the region and Oxfam's main office in Great Britain and produce additional reports materials as required by e.g fund raisers, Country Programme Manager etc.
- Liaise with appropriate government agencies, other donor agencies, other Oxfams, national level organizations, and other groups, NGOs and POs, as appropriate, in the pursuit of programme aims and plans
- Carry out administrative tasks required in the approval, making and paying of grants, and in line with the office finance policies and procedures
- Maintain up-to-date reviews of social, political and economic contexts relevant or with potential impacts to the work of Oxfam and of partners

Core Competencies:

- Conceptual, critical and analytical thinking
- Initiative and drive to achieve results
- Ability to work effectively with others
- Adaptable and flexible

Essential Specifications

- Mature understanding of the Philippine development environment, preferably on the link between resource management, livelihoods and markets, its dynamics and operations, and work experience with NGO's, grassroots organizations, development agencies and government agencies/units
- Understanding of the impact of liberalization, or the pressure of globalization, to widening the inequity and exclusion of the poor and marginalized
- Knowledge and proven experience in project management, administration and budgeting
- Commitment to promoting gender equality and ability to incorporate gender into the analyses, programme strategy and implementation and M&E
- Commitment to capacity building and demonstrated skill on participatory approaches
- Good interpersonal relations and ability to relate to people of diverse backgrounds
- Excellent time management and organizational skills, ability to manage multiple priorities and work to deadlines
- Willingness and ability to travel, for extended periods, and to remote areas
- Excellent budgeting and numeracy skills
- Excellent written and spoken English and Filipino
- Computer literate in MS Work and Excel
- Knowledge and experience in implementing innovative and successful community based sustainable livelihood projects in agriculture and/or fisheries sector, and advantage.

The post is for a six (6) months assignment. Interested applicants should submit their application letter with complete CV to:

The Human Resources and Administrative Officer
OXFAM GREAT BRITAIN
95-A Malumanay Street
Teacher's Village
Diliman, Quezon City 1101
FAX: 927-0499 email: etadeo@oxfam.org.uk

Deadline of application : October 28, 2005
Interview dates : to be advised

ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CALLED FOR INTERVIEW

JIMAC

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IMMEDIATE HIRING

DELPHI PROGRAMMERS

- Either Computer Science or related discipline
- Can program in Delphi / Pascal or Visual Basic; Experience in SQL and Client/Server Environment is a must

LINUX PROGRAMMER

- Either Computer Science or related discipline
- Proficient in Linux Programming using C/C++; background in Web Designing, PHP, HTML and MYSQL is an advantage.

SYSTEM SUPPORT

- Either Computer Engineering or Computer Science Courses
- With knowledge in basic PC Trouble shooting, Software Installation and Networking is an advantage.
- Willing to assist client and work on extended hours / weekends and Holidays as needed.
- Applicant will be assigned at our Festival Mall Branch at Alabang Muntinlupa City and Tutuban Mall Branch at Tondo Manila City

Interested applicants may send their resumé with recent photo at the following address or via e-mail

JIMAC, INCORPORATED
HR DEPARTMENT
Penthouse floor TC Plaza Building
near cor. Cordillera St. Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel No. 742-6832, 742-6840 loc. 117
e-mail address: hrd@jimac-inc.com

The **League of Cities of the Philippines** is looking for young and dynamic individuals for the positions of **POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND ADVOCACY OFFICERS.**

Ideal candidates should possess the following qualities:

- Good oral and written communication skills in English and Filipino
- Willing to develop a career in policy development and advocacy
- Can work unsupervised
- Willing to work long hours and under pressure
- Willing to travel
- Experience in policy development and/or previous work in Congress would be an advantage
- Fair knowledge in Information Technology, particularly in web development

Fresh graduates with exemplary academic track records are welcome to apply.

Email your comprehensive resumé to:
policy.lcp@gmail.com or to **ebuenaflor1@yahoo.com**

League of Cities of the Philippines
1278 corner Estrada and Lemery Sts.,
Malate, Manila 1004
Telefax No. **(02) 521-6461**

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JOB Market

Building the future. One career at a time.

ICT GROUP

Welcome to ICT Group.

In line with our business expansion, we are looking for potential candidates to fill in the following positions:

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OPERATIONS DIRECTORS
OPERATIONS MANAGERS
BUSINESS MANAGERS
QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGERS
GENERAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR
SECURITY SUPERVISOR
SENIOR WORKFORCE ANALYST
DATA ENTRY OPERATORS

FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

(Financial, Technical, Sales, Inbound, Multi-lingual Accounts)

- Preferably college graduate
- Excellent communication skills
- Active listening skills
- Good customer service skills
- Willing to be assigned in Makati or Ortigas

SPANISH AND FRENCH SPEAKING REPS

- For CSR (Full-time and Part-time) please submit your resume asap to **manilarecruitment_csr_english@ictgroup.com**
- For Spanish and French Speaking CSR please submit your resume to **manilarecruitment_csr_multilingual@ictgroup.com**
- For Data Entry Operators please submit your resume to **manilarecruitment_dataentry@ictgroup.com**
- For other positions please submit your resume to **recruitingmanila@ictgroup.com**

Or VISIT our RECRUITMENT CENTER
14TH Floor UnionBank Tower,
Meralco Avenue, Ortigas Center Pasig
from Mondays thru Fridays, 9am to 5pm
For more information please call us
at 8570305/8570308 to 10

KLAVENESS MARITIME AGENCY, INC.

POEA – 25167-3

Our Customer, Klaveness Maritime Logistics, is part of The Torvald Klaveness Group, one of the world's leading dry bulk companies with ambition to pave the way for the shipping of tomorrow. The Torvald Klaveness Group operates 150 vessels, employs 155 people at the head office in Oslo, and reported 2004 revenues of NOK 10.1 billion.

Klaveness Maritime Logistics creates transport concepts that contribute to lower costs in the logistics chain. Its expertise is in trans-oceanic and regional distribution of bulk commodities. It aims to always have the most effective combination of commercial solutions with cost-effective technology on board and ashore.

Wanted: PURCHASER – LOGISTICS (Trainee)

For a newly established position in our Purchasing Section, Klaveness Maritime Agency, Inc. seek customer-minded and responsible personnel.

The employment will be based in Manila, but will be a fully integrated support member of a Purchasing team of Klaveness Maritime Logistics based in Oslo. Initially the Purchaser will be sent to Oslo for a few months training and familiarization before carrying out the actual work assignment at Klaveness Manila office.

The nature of the position will make the personnel part of an energetic, dynamic and change-willing team.

Key responsibilities:
- Negotiate and purchase consumables and spare parts from International suppliers.
- Handle the process of identifying suppliers, placing orders and follow up on supplies from supplier to vessels.
- Handle the logistics process

We are seeking a young energetic individual with the following qualifications:
- University degree within technical and/or logistics
- Purchase or logistics experience from a similar position is an advantage but not a prerequisite
- Fluent oral and written English skills,
- Well-acquainted working with and using IT tools in general
- Good understanding of commercial business practice

The ideal candidate should be:
- With systematic approach to tasks
- A Team player
- Self driven
- Responsible
- Analytical and have a keen sense of attention to details
- A mature and developed cross-cultural mind-set

We offer:
- an exciting position in an organisation with high strategic objectives
- excellent conditions for development in an international shipping environment.
- competitive salary

All applications are treated strictly confidential. Resume to be sent by e-mail or submitted personally to:

Ms. Lina E. Sy
Administrative Officer
Klaveness Maritime Agency, Inc.
6F VNP Bldg., No. 479, Pedro Gil St., Ermita, Manila
Tel.: 5238984, 5218556
Email: ADMIN@klaveness-manila.com.ph

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Capital Markets Intelligence Team Manager (CTM 05)

A suitable candidate would be managing a team whose primary role will be to produce shareholder identification reports on a quarterly basis. The candidate would be expected to produce shareholder ownership reports in a timely manner and simultaneously manage the team to tight deadlines.

Candidate should be a Bachelor's degree holder of a Business-related course with at least two (2) years relevant work experience in a financial institution and/or with experience writing and editing research analysis and reports. Should have good understanding of company financials and have a fair knowledge of the financial equities market. Candidate should be fluent in both oral and written English and should be highly proficient in Microsoft Excel and Word. Experience handling and supervising a team is needed. Candidates must be willing to work in shifts.

Software Engineer (SE 05)

The successful candidate will be responsible for the design and development of applications that would provide business and process efficiencies, to include collection of various production metrics in terms of quality, timeliness, productivity and output by automating existing processes.

A suitable candidate will be someone who has at least 3 years solid IT experience in Software Development. Technical Support experience would be an advantage. Strong knowledge in the following programming languages, namely Visual Basic 6.0 with .NET relevant experience, C++, RDMBS experience, MS SQL server/client 2000 (ORACLE9i DB Experience a plus), MS Access 2000. Hands on knowledge of Windows 2000 server/Professional and XP, Web Server (IIS) configuration and architecture. Expertise on Web Technologies especially HTML and WEB scripting languages such as JavaScript, J2EE, JDBC, ASP, XML with .NET relevant experience. A Recognized IT certification would be an advantage. The person should be service and team oriented. Has the ability to think logically and communicate clearly and diplomatically. Has excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Capital Markets Intelligence Analyst (CMI 05)

A suitable candidate would be supporting (Capital Markets Intelligence) clients for the preparation of regular (weekly, monthly and quarterly) high quality error-free and concise) client deliverables, monitoring of all company and sector developments. He/She will also be expected to analyze shareholder data for our Shareholder Identification teams.

Candidate should have at least 2 years of experience as an equity analyst, writing and editing research analysis and reports. Should have good understanding of company financials and have a fair knowledge of the financial equities market. Candidate should be fluent in both oral and written English and should be highly proficient in Microsoft Excel and Word.

Language Specialist (LS 05)

We are also in need of Bi-lingual Analysts who are fluent in any one of the following foreign languages: *Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Norwegian, Scandinavian, German, Italian, French, Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese, Indonesian and Korean.* This position is open to new graduates of any course

Corporate Services Associate – Japan (CSA-J 05)

The successful candidate would be assisting with data aggregation, account management, and sales activities. Primary role would include daily coordinating duties by telephone to Outside Sales Executives and Investor Relations Officer in Japan.

A suitable candidate should have a Bachelor's Degree in preferably a Business related course in Management, Marketing, Administration, Economics or Finance although degrees in all fields are considered. Should have a minimum of one (1) year work experience preferably in a client services or financial environment. Candidates should have good telephone and email skills. Candidates must be comfortable working in a fast paced, constantly evolving team environment. Should be fluent in spoken and written English and Nihonggo or Japanese Language (at least a Level 2).

Client Services Executive (CSE 05)

As part of the Global Customer Care team, you will be providing product support to clients in Asia Pacific, London (UK) and US for our range of products in portfolio management, order management and performance measurement. Responsibilities include technical and product support; administrative maintenance of client information and troubleshooting client issues in a stand-alone and group environment. Candidates should possess financial industry knowledge, strong organizational skills, be self-motivated and demonstrate a professional attitude. Good communication and inter-personal skills are pre-requisites plus the ability to work autonomously as well as part of the global team. Working knowledge of Unix, Windows NT, Sybase or Microsoft SQL Server is desirable but not necessary.

The successful candidate should ideally have a good understanding of capital markets and financial institutions' middle and back office operations as well as 1 to 2 years related Customer Support work experience. The successful candidate is also expected to take graveyard shifts to accommodate clients from UK and US clients.

Research Analysts - English (EA 05)

Successful candidates will be responsible for research, analysis and content processing of various financial and business-related data. Preferably graduates of business-related courses, open to new graduates. Should be fluent in both written and spoken English. Proficiency in Microsoft Office programs and Internet usage is needed. Should be detail oriented, motivated and should have good problem solving and customer service skills. Candidates must be able to demonstrate the ability to handle multiple priorities and be willing to work in shifts including the graveyard shift.

If you are ready to take the challenge and work in a dynamic company, please send your application letter together with your resumé, indicating the position code you are applying for, your expected salary, transcript of records and recent 2x2 photo on or before 27 October 2005 to:

The Human Resources Group
The Thomson (Philippines) Corporation
20th Floor, Ayala Life-FGU Center
6811 Ayala Ave. 1200 Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@thomson.com

We offer an attractive remuneration package, a five-day work week, retirement plan, allowances, annual leave days, medical, dental and life insurance coverage.

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MANAGERIAL

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We are looking for dynamic and creative people to join our team!

INCOHO is looking for energetic individuals with a positive outlook in life and a thirst for challenges. If you are all of these, then you are the person we want!

CALL CENTER AGENTS

- Four-year college degree
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Exceptional problem-solving and strong negotiation abilities
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office
- Ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously
- Must have a strong tolerance to pressure
- Willing to work on a multi-shift environment
- US customer-contact experience is an advantage
- Experience in recovery collections will also be an advantage

**We are also in need of HR Officer and IT Assistant with experience.*

For those who are interested, kindly submit your comprehensive resumé with picture and transcript of records to **human.resources@incohoinc.com** or mail to **HR Officer, Incoho Philippines, Inc., 6th Flr Sycip Salazar Hernandez Gatmaitan (SSHG) Building, 105 Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village Makati City.**

GLOBAL9

ATTENTION:
BICOLANO CALL CENTER AGENTS
Global 9 will soon open a Call Center in Naga City, Cam. Sur with the following positions

OPERATIONS MANAGER

- Graduate of a college or higher degree
- Must have 2-3 years experience in running an outbound call center
- Must posses strong leadership and training skills
- Speaks excellent English
- Proven Management skills
- Preferably Bicolano/Bicolana

TEAM LEADERS (OUTBOUND SALES)

- Excellent English communication skills
- Must have at least 1 year experience in the field of telesales
- Must be able to train and motivate his/her outbound sales team
- College Graduate
- Outgoing personality

WEBMASTERS/PBX ENGINEERS

- Graduate of BS/MS in Computer Science or Electronics Comm Engineers
- Must be proficient in PHP, Java, & MySQL
- Must be familiar in Symbian OS
- At least 1 year working experience in Software or Web Development an advantage
- Experience with application and database servers highly desired.

OUTBOUND SALES AGENTS

- At least 2nd year college
- Great English Conversation skills
- 18 to 30 years old, with outgoing personality, loves to talk
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
- Basic computer knowledge
- Internet savvy

EMAIL your resumés with ID picture to: hr-naga@nytelecon.com
For Naga Residents you may send your resumé to
Mr. Reuel Oliver, Naga City Investment Board
ncib@naga.gov.ph

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NEWSPAPER DISTRIBUTOR SPECIALISTS to work for our client.

JOB DESCRIPTION: Will handle a distributor partner to manage the business.
QUALIFICATIONS: Graduates of top universities; Highly motivated; Aggressive; Hardworking; Must possess excellent oral & written communication skills both in English and Filipino; Willing to be relocated, Willing to work in a fast-paced, dynamic & flexible environment. Fresh graduates are encouraged to apply.

Send your ***Resume*** to **Best Option Office** at
2/F Race Bldg. 608 Sierra Madre
St. Mandaluyong City
or call **7171396*5328462** and look for **Ms. Sharene D. Baylon.**
You can email it to
sadb_bestoption@yahoo.com

LGC

In line with our expansion program,
we are in need of dynamic and competent individuals to join our TEAM.

MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL POSITIONS

All candidates must be college degree holders, must have strong human relations / interpersonal skills, ability to work well under pressure and adapt to changing work demands and conditions.

SALES MANAGER
- ❑ Has attained at least four years of formal education at the University level.
- ❑ Has five years of professional sales experience in a related industry.
- ❑ With supervisory management experience in a service environment.
- ❑ Must have strong human relations and interpersonal (negotiation) skills.
- ❑ Must be able to work well under pressure and adapt to changing conditions.
- ❑ Able to meet expected sales goals and strategies.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
- ❑ Must have a sufficient amount of formal education acquired through college training, business, school, etc.
- ❑ With at least one (1) year of successful sales experience with a related industry.
- ❑ Must be self-motivated; has ability to organize and prioritize a large amount of data.
- ❑ Has strong human relations and communication skills
- ❑ Able to write and converse in English fluently is required.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES
- ❑ At least third (3rd year) college level, preferably communication's course.
- ❑ Excellent communication skills in both written and spoken language.
- ❑ Must be fluent in both English and Filipino
- ❑ Has strong interpersonal skills, ability to deal with customer complaints and inquiries.
- ❑ Willing to work on different shifts based on business needs.
- ❑ Computer literate.

COURIER
- ❑ At least third year course graduate.
- ❑ With at least three (3) to six (6) months working experience.
- ❑ Male and not more than 28 years old.
- ❑ Good interpersonal & human relations skills.
- ❑ Must be courteous & disciplined.
- ❑ Willing to work long hours/ holidays depending on busines needs.

Interested parties may send their application letter and comprehensive resume through the following addresses:

recruitment@pf2100.com

or

The Corporate HRD - Recruitment Section 1F Cargohaus Building, Dngy. Visitor, NAIA Complex, Parañaque City (in front of the Bayang Pilipino)

You may also reach the HRD through the following contact numbers: 879-4511 or 879-4147 Please look for Joey, Kate, or Sean

Previous applicants need not apply.

FedEx · AIR 21 · 2100 Customs Brokers, Inc · Cargohaus, Inc · Linaheim Corporate Services Inc · J-Freight Phils. Inc · Ocean Inc · LGC Logistics · Waste and Resources Management Inc · UBE Media · Mail More · LBTW · DOSI · K-Konek · GO21 · WMI Integrated Waste Management Inc · LINAHEIM Linaheim Corporate Travel and Tours Inc · CORPORATE AIR · Corporate Air Inc · Lhuillier

GMA NETWORK

*The Country's **No.1 TV Network** invites highly competent & dynamic professionals who have the passion for excellence to occupy the following positions:*

- ❑ **Audio Editors**
- ❑ **Copywriters**
- ❑ **Engineering Technicians**
- ❑ **IT Applic. Devt. Mgr.**
- ❑ **IT Specialist**
- ❑ **Librarians**
- ❑ **Production Managers**
- ❑ **Satellite Systems Engr.**
- ❑ **Videographic Artists**
- ❑ **Video Editors**

Electronics & Communications Engineering, Electrical and Industrial Engineering, Fine Arts, IT and Mass Communication Graduates (with Broadcast experience, an advantage) are also invited to apply

Interested parties can submit their resumes, transcript of records & 2X2 picture to Recruitment Section of the HRD Department

Address : GMA Complex EDSA cor. Timog Avenue, Diliman, Q.C.
E-mail Address : recruitment@gmanetwork.com
Website : www.igma.tv

RAMCAR GROUP OF COMPANIES

The country's leading manufacturer of Automotive Batteries

invites applicants for the following positions

JR. PROCESS DESIGN / PROCESS ENGINEERS

(Will assist & support the R&D Engr. in designing, developing, planning and improving processes through process design/engineering, and research & development)
- Male, 21 to 26 years old.
- Graduate of BS Metallurgical, Materials, Chemical or Mechanical Engineering.
- With interest in doing research and design.

QUALITY ASSURANCE AUDITORS

(Accountable in implementing quality engineering strategies under the direction of the QA Head leading to product and process compliance & continuous improvement)
- Male or Female, 21 to 28 years old.
- Graduate of BS Metallurgical, Chemical or Mechanical Engineering.
- With 1 to 2 years experience in a manufacturing set-up and ISO.
- Has background in SPC, DOE, MSA and FMEA.

LABORATORY ENGINEERS / CHEMISTS

(Responsible for the operation of the QA Laboratories and implementation of QA policies, Laboratory SOPs, QA Lab plans and programs)
- Male or Female, 21 to 30 years old.
- Graduate of BS Chemistry, Metallurgical or Chemical Engineering.
- Knowledgeable in material testing such as OES, UTM, AAS, DSC, MC Analyzer and other chemical and metallurgical testing.
- Acquainted with calibration techniques and principles.

PRODUCTION FOREMEN / ENGINEERS

(Will supervise the operation as aligned to set parameters and ensures sufficient number of manpower and output. Will also be responsible in providing first hand maintenance to machine troubles)
- Male, 21 to 30 years old.
- Graduate of BS MetE, Ch.E, ECE and ME.
- Computer literate.
- Fresh graduates may be considered.

FIELD BUYERS
- Male or Female, 22-28 years old.
- College graduate.
- Possesses effective communication and interpersonal skills.
- Willing to do field works.

ACCOUNTANTS/AUDITORS/TAX SPECIALISTS
- Male or Female, 22-28 years old.
- Must be a CPA.
- With minimum of 2 years work experience preferably in a manufacturing set-up or audit consultancy group.

MOULD TECHNICIANS
- Male or Female, 20-30 years old.
- Mechanical Engineering or Machine Shop Technology Graduate.
- With experience in mold making.
- Willing to be based in Bulacan.

Interested applicants may personally apply at
Corporate Recruitment Section (Battery Group)
Ramcar Center
80 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Or thru Email: ebmuscat@motolite.com
(Please indicate position applied for in the subject field)

**** Previous applicants need NOT apply***

Read it every SUNDAY with the **PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER** and visit it online @ **www.jobmarketonline.com**

JOB Market ONLINE

Stores Specialists, Inc.

(A Member of the Rustan Group of Companies)

Is in immediate need of top a caliber individual...

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT

MakeRoom

"THE TOTAL STORAGE AND ORGANIZATION SPECIALIST"

- Female; between 23-28 years old
- Graduate of Interior Design, Industrial Design or any related course
- With at least six (6) months work experience preferably in the same /related field
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Must be artistic, creative and results-oriented
- Must be computer literate

We welcome applicants from CITEM and Philippine School of Interior Design

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Human Resources Management Division
(C/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

Rustan Marketing Corporation

Is in immediate need of a top caliber individual...

CORPORATE SALES MANAGER

- Male or Female; Between 25-35 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year business related course
- Preferably with experience in a direct/retail selling environment
- Preferably with experience in distributing consumer products
- Creative and with excellent communications skills
- Must possess a pleasing, aggressive and dynamic personality

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND OR E-MAIL IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

Rustan Marketing Corporation
Human Resource Management Division
(c/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

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GALLEY : CHEFS ☆ COOKS ☆ PASTRY COOKS ☆ BAKERS ☆ BUTCHERS ☆ ICE CARVERS ☆ KITCHEN ARTISTS ☆ KITCHEN STEWARDS

BAR/DINING : SERVICE CAPTAINS ☆ OUTLET SUPERVISORS & MANAGERS ☆ ASSISTANT F&B MANAGERS ☆ BARTENDERS ☆ BAR WAITRESSES / WAITERS ☆ BUFFET STEWARDS / STEWARDESSES ☆ F&B UTILITY

ACCOMMODATION : CABIN STEWARDESS ☆ ATTENDANTS ☆ RECEPTIONISTS ☆ FRONT DESK CLERKS ☆ HOTEL STAFF APPRENTICE

STORES/PROVISION : PROVISION MASTERS ☆ STOREKEEPERS

ENTERTAINMENT : MUSICIANS ☆ BAND MEMBERS ☆ SINGING CRUISE STAFF YOUTH STAFF PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS ☆ LIGHTS & SOUNDS TECHNICIANS

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION : LAUNDRYMEN-STEWARDS ☆ LINENKEEPERS ☆ UNIFORM MASTER HORTICULTURISTS ☆ FLORISTS ☆ SEAMSTRESS ☆ UPHOLSTERER ☆ OFFSET MACHINE OPERATORS

SPA/SERVICES : BEAUTY THERAPISTS ☆ BEAUTICIANS ☆ HAIR STYLISTS ☆ FOOT REFLEXOLOGISTS

CASINO : CAGE CASHIER ☆ CASINO DEALERS ☆ GENERAL STAFF APPRENTICE ☆ SLOT TECHNICIANS

DECK & ENGINE . MARINE DECK & ENGINE OFFICERS ☆ FITTERS ☆ PLUMBERS ☆ CARPENTERS ☆ GP ENGINE ☆ ELECTRICIANS ☆ REF FITTERS

HEALTHCARE : UK-LICENSED NURSES

QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants must have 6 – 12 months work experience in the same position they are applying for and must be able to communicate well in English. Hotel Staff and General Staff Apprentices do not require work experience, but must be graduates of HRM, Tourism or any other 4-year course. Applicants with special talents in singing or dancing or fluency in Nihonggo or Mandarin may also qualify without work experience.

REQUIREMENTS: Interested applicants must visit our website www.magsaysay.com.ph and fill out the online application. Original copies of the following requirements must be presented before photocopies can be accepted.
1. Resume with 2 pcs (2x2) colored ID picture with white background
2. Employment or service record certificates
3. NBI & Barangay Clearance
4. SSS ID
5. Seaman's Book and Passport (if available)

Interviews will be conducted in any of the following Magsaysay offices depending on the location of applicants

Manila Recruitment Center, 520 T.M. Kalaw St. Ermita, Manila
Visayas Magsaysay Cebu Office, 128 F. Ramos Street, Cebu City
Mindanao Magsaysay Davao Office, 45 Jose Palma Gil Street, Davao City

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UNDP

The Conflict Prevention and Peace-building Programme (CPPB) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), implemented by the Office of the Presidential Advisor on the Peace Process (OPAPP), is in search of qualified candidates for the posts of **PMO Manager, Project Associate, Finance Officer, Administrative Assistant and Driver/Messenger** to be based at the OPAPP in Ortigas, Pasig City.

PMO Manager

Functions:

Project Management
1. Ensures the effective management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Programme, including meeting of delivery targets
2. Coordinates oversight, review and monitoring of UNDP Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) and Annual Work Plan (AWP) implementation ensuring appropriate stakeholder participation
3. Provides advisory and technical support services to the implementing agency/partner in the areas of planning, management and execution of the AWP
4. Coordinates and participates in the preparation of the Annual Work Plan, Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs), Terms of Reference (TORs) and other project instruments
5. Ensures and facilitates the timely preparation of progress and financial reports and documents in compliance with required guidelines, systems and audit standards for submission to UNDP
6. Identifies potential funding sources, and develops and submits programme/project proposals
7. Provides support on advocacy campaigns and knowledge sharing activities
8. Coordinates and maintains regular networking and partnership with Peace and Development Portfolio partners
9. Performs other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the UNDP Peace and Development Portfolio Manager

Budget
1. Ensures timely administration and effective financial management of the Programme including financial record-keeping, internal control management, budgeting, cash flow forecasting, fund transfers and documentation both at the project and partner organization levels support of AWP implementation
2. Approves contractual commitments of the Programme based on the delegated approval authority

Human Resources
1. Ensures effective human resource management of the Programme including staff recruitment, selection, induction, performance appraisals, training and development

Qualifications:
- Masters degree in political science, social sciences, development management, public administration, or related fields
- At least 5 years experience in programme/project management and development, including design, implementation, management, monitoring and evaluation, and resource mobilization
- At least 2 years experience in implementation of UNDP projects, an advantage
- Experience in design and implementation of peace and development programmes, including training in conflict prevention and peace-building
- Training on results-based management and rights based approach, development administration, management and resource mobilization
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, as well as strong program planning and management skills including administrative and human resources management
- Ability to work cooperatively with others in the performance of tasks
- Proficient in the use of various MS Office application softwares, such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, among others

Project Associate

Functions:
1. Assists in managing the implementation of the CPPB programme/activities, ensuring conformity to results and the approved AWP
2. Assists in the preparation of the Annual Work Plan (AWP), incorporating agreements with UNDP, OPAPP and implementing partners
3. Reviews and evaluates project proposals and other programme-related documents such as Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Terms of Reference (TORs), assessing completeness and adequacy of outputs to ensure proper delivery of subcontracts
4. Provides appropriate advise and technical support to the implementing agency/partners on NEX policies and procedures in programme implementation, reporting, financial management, procurement, recruitment, travel policies, among others
5. Conducts regular monitoring and review of project deliverables/outputs under the AWP
6. Participates in CPPB programme assessment meetings, and assists in reviewing Programme progress, determining implementation issues/bottlenecks and corresponding remedial measures as needed
7. Provides recommendation/s on policies, systems, procedures and tools for effective AWP implementation to include results-based management
8. Assists the PMO Manager in advocacy campaigns and knowledge sharing activities
9. Assists the PMO Manager in networking and coordination with Portfolio partners
10. Performs other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the PMO Manager

Qualifications:
- Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences and related fields; Masteral units/degree an advantage
- At least 3 years experience in programme implementation/management, including monitoring and evaluation and resource mobilization
- Previous experience in implementation/management of UNDP-supported projects an advantage
- Training on results-based management, peace-building, development administration, management and resource mobilization
- Proficient in the use of various MS application softwares such as Excel, Word and Powerpoint
- Excellent written and oral communication skills

Finance Officer

Functions:
1. Oversees financial management operations, including related systems modifications for simplification and seamless integration with UNDP system
2. Supervises receipts and payments management, e.g. local and foreign payables, payables and receivables and payroll-related transactions
3. Acts as committing / certifying officer for all UNDP administered funds
4. Supervises accounts, records and file management functions e.g. review and identification of the integrity of monthly accounts, bank reconciliation reports, and ensures that issues are addressed and actions completed on time
5. Ensures cost effectiveness and quality of accounting services through continuous process of improvement and automation
6. Performs cash management functions e.g. banking-related services and treasury transactions, as well as compliance and reporting management functions
7. Prepares, regularly updates, and administers the AWP in the UNDP automated financial system (ATLAS) for the PMO, and assists in monitoring the performance of the CPPB Programme
8. Keeps abreast of all updated procedures, rules and regulations relevant to assigned functions
9. Performs other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the PMO Manager

Qualifications:
- Bachelor's degree relevant to the field; CPA an advantage
- At least 3 years experience in financial management. Experience working for UNDP or any development agencies / projects an advantage
- Must be proficient in the use of various MS application softwares such as Excel, Word and Powerpoint

Administrative Assistant

Functions:
1. Assists in providing NEX and administrative advice or assistance to the PMO, implementing agencies and responsible parties (both government and civil society organizations) of the AWP in the aspect of portfolio operations and management
2. Assists in monitoring AWP project outputs and deliverables
3. Monitors AWP financial and administrative operations
4. Provides support in organizing national and international missions, meetings and conferences, project site visits of CPPB-related projects/activities
5. Provided public information on queries received regarding programme-related concerns
6. Prepares and updates schedules of meetings and appointments for the PMO
7. Performs other related duties that may be assigned from time to time by the PMO Manager

Qualifications:
- Bachelor's degree relevant to the field
- At least 3 years experience in administrative work; previous work with UNDP and other development agencies / projects an advantage
- Must be proficient in the use of various MS application softwares such as Excel, Word and Powerpoint

Driver/Messenger

Functions:
1. Performs driving and transportation duties for the PMO staff during official working hours
2. Prepares weekly report on fuel and oil consumption
3. Performs minor repairs and routine maintenance on the PMO vehicle
4. Performs other related duties such as messengerial services and assistance in duplicating official documents
5. Performs other related duties that may be assigned from time to time

Qualifications:
- At least high school graduate; 2 years College undergraduate an advantage
- Five to ten years driving experience
- Knowledgeable on basic maintenance and repair of vehicles

All application letters and comprehensive resumés should reach our office on or before 28 October 2005. Address applications to the Development Support Services Center, United Nations Development Programme, 30th Floor, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza

This advertisement shall remain posted in www.undp.org.ph until 28 October 2005

JOB FAIR

@ 5/F ELJ Bldg. ABS-CBN Compound

October 18, 19 & 20, 2005, 9:00AM – 5:00PM

Successful Candidates Will Be Given Immediate Job Offer and Start on October 24

CUSTOMER SALES AGENTS

- Php 15,000 - 18,000 BASE RATE
- Php 5, 000 UPON REGULARIZATION
- 20% Night Differential
- Free Meal
- Paid Training
- Fun, comfortable and professional working environment
- Php 1, 000 PER SUCCESSFUL REFERAL
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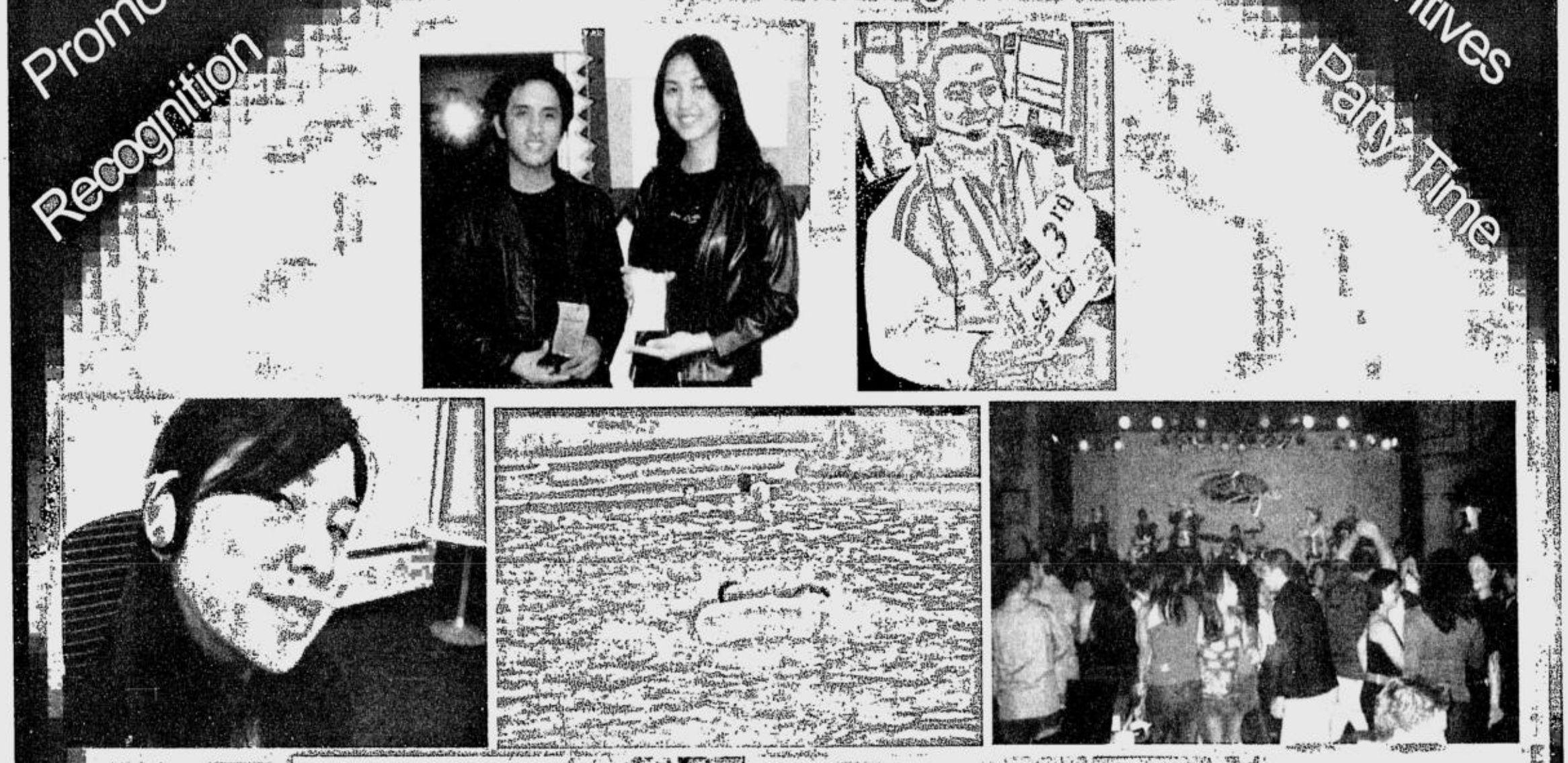

MANAGEMENT
- Quality Manager
- MIS Manager
- Business Manager
- Operations Manager
- Training and Quality Manager

OPERATIONS
- Directory Assistance Agents
- Telemarketing Agents
- Technical Support Agents
- Accent Trainer
- Language Trainer

SUPPORT GROUP
- Payroll Assistant
- Administrative Assistant
- Recruitment Assistant
- Student-Trainees
- Company Doctor

NCO GROUP

NCO is the industry leader in providing clients with successful business process outsourcing (BPO) solutions. Our outsourcing portfolio includes accounts receivable management, customer management services, and back office services for a diversified customer base. Since NCO's inception in 1926, our goal has remained constant — to reduce client operating expenses, increase cash flow, and improve their customers' experience. Our best-in-class, results-driven reputation, strong financial track record, and proven business model makes NCO **the** choice for BPO solutions.

RMH

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Mo. Ignacia St., Quezon City

We will be happy to give you more information:

Call Us at:
981-7558 - 60

Email Us at:
manilarecruitment@ncogroup.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

JOB Market

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005
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Thursday 12:00 noon

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1

WE WERE GOING TO PUT IN A PHOTO OF A CONVERGYS AGENT.

BUT UNFORTUNATELY, HE JUST GOT A RAISE, A PROMOTION, AND DECIDED TO SPEND THE WEEKEND IN BORACAY.

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#4 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center Pasig City
(02)857-7588

Alabang Office
Block 44, Northgate Cyberzone Muntinlupa City
(02)758-1688

Commonwealth Office
Diliman Commercial Center
#46 Don Mariano Marcos Avenue, Diliman Quezon City
(02)931-3710

Makati Office
8th Floor, Tower 2, The Enterprise Tower Ayala Avenue
Makati City
(02)857-7788

Cebu Office
R. Arcenas Street, Arcenas Estate Banawa Hills
Cebu City
(032)416-5810

U-Belt Office
Level 1, St. ... Square
1150 Español ... ard cor.
Padre Campampaloc,
Manila
(02)735-200

SM

If you want your career to go places, join any of our branches and get ready to reach the top of the corporate ladder

MALL OF ASIA

OPERATIONS GROUP

Building Administration Manager /Officer

The successful candidate will be responsible for the over-all supervision of the operation and maintenance of all electrical and mechanical equipment used in air conditioning, plumbing, substation, generating sets, sanitation and building facilities. He will also manage the maintenance of cleanliness and attractive appearance of the common areas and in leading the maintenance personnel and operations in accordance with the Company standards.
- Male
- not over 35 years old
- graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering
- with 2 years work experience in property management and building administration in the same capacity
- able to lead a group, prioritize work load and meet deadlines

Customer Service Manager / Supervisor

The ideal candidate will be responsible for planning, coordinating, controlling and directing customer service operations and functions in the assigned branch department
- Female
- not over 35 years old
- graduate of any 4 year business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in sales and marketing, able to carry out prompt and efficient customer service
- with pleasing personality

Selling Manager / Supervisor

The successful candidate will be responsible for the planning, controlling and directing selling activities and personnel for the attainment of sales targets.
- Male / Female
- not over 35 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales in the same capacity

Counter & Checking Manager / Supervisor

The ideal candidate will be responsible for the planning, controlling and directing counter and checking operations and functions such as cashiering, credit card and cash transactions in the assigned branch department.
- Female
- not over 35 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in cashiering operations, familiar with credit card and cash transactions
- responsible for over-all supervision of personnel in the department

Warehouse Manager / Supervisor

The ideal candidate will be responsible for an assigned branch warehouse in terms of proper planning and controlling of operations functions and directing of a group.
- Male
- not over 35 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- with extensive experience in all aspects of warehousing operations in a retail business
- able to lead and motivate staff, and foster a team working environment

Customer Relations Service Manager / Supervisor

The successful candidate will be responsible for the planning, promulgation and implementation of the over-all security program of the Company.
- Male/Female
- not over 35 years old
- graduate of Criminology or any 4-year business course
- male must be at least 5'5-1/2" female must be at least 5'2" in height
- with 1 year related work experience in handling security matters and personnel
- with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior
- with keen investigation skills, detail oriented and physically fit
- flexible to different work assignments and willing to be assigned to provincial branches and work on extended hours.

SUPPORT & ADMIN. GROUP

Human Resource Manager

The successful candidate will be responsible for ensuring effective performance of personnel functions in the assigned branch.
- Female
- graduate of Behavioral Science, Law, Psychology or any 4-year Management course
- with 2 to 5 years experience in all facets of personnel management in the same capacity such as specialization either in timekeeping, compensation or benefits administration, recruitment and labor relations
- must be able to build and maintain professional relations with people in the organization
- with excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- team-player, goal oriented and able to work under pressure
- must be computer literate

Visual Display Officer
- Female/male
- graduate of Fine Arts, or any 4-year related course
- With at least 1 year related experience in retail, design or fashion is preferred
- Current knowledge of RTW, Mens' and Home Fashions is a plus
- Strong organization, planning, and prioritizing skills
- Flexible to be scheduled in support of retail hours

Training Officer / Trainer

The qualified candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of training programs with the end view of providing assistance in skills and attitude enhancement of employees
- Male / Female
- not over 32 years old
- graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course
- with 2 years related work experience
- knowledgeable in conducting training needs analysis, designing, implementing and evaluating of training programs and activities related to behavior and skill modification of employees

Nurse

The ideal candidate will be responsible for assisting the Company Physician in providing medical services in the assigned branch
- Female
- not over 32 years old
- must be a Registered Nurse
- with 2 years experience in industrial or hospital setup
- able to establish rapport and deal with all levels of the organization
- willing to work on shift schedules or extended hours

Office Assistant

(Human Resources * Accounting * Treasury * Customer Service)
- Female
- not over 25 years old
- graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Communication Arts, Business Management, Accountancy, Computer Science or any 4-year business course
- Personable, fast learner and willing to work on extended hours

If you believe you are the **ideal candidate**, you may apply personally from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at

SM Shoemart
SM Corporate Office
Bldg. D 1000 Bay Boulevard, SM Central Business Park
Bay City, Pasay City

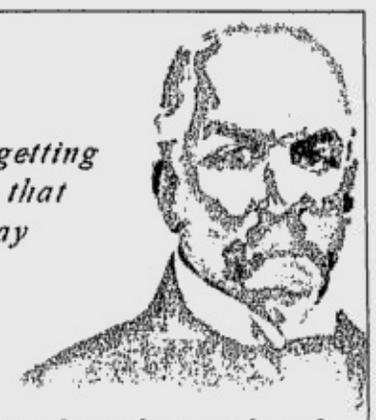
Visit our Website : www.sm-shoemart.com
E-mail : Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

Please bring resumé, 2 pcs. 2x2 colored picture with white background, SSS Number / SSS Employment History print out and original and photocopy of Transcript of Records and Diploma)

PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY

MANAGERIAL

"The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide that you are not going to stay where you are."
-- J. P. Morgan



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- high aptitude for Math
- at least six months' call center experience, preferably in handling financial services or mortgage banking
- strong analytical skills
- a strong desire to learn
- a passion to succeed

Please visit our offices at:

John Clements Consultants, Inc.
B1, LKG Tower 6801 Ayala Avenue Makati City,
Telephone: (+63 2) 884-1210 / 884-1227
Look for Judy Francisco
Email Address: banking_finance@johnclements.com
www.johnclements.com

Netopia Internet Café

JOB ALERT!!!

We are the industry's newest leader in internet café with successful chain of branches in different strategic areas across the Philippines and even in Asia including Thailand. We seek dynamic, flexible, customer oriented, highly-competent and hands-on individuals to be part of our highly motivated organization.

CLUSTER MANAGER (Code: CM)
- Bachelor's Degree in Business, Management, Sales & Marketing, Hospitality/Tourism Management or equivalent from one of the top schools
- With at least 3 years supervisory experience in retail or service industries
- Excellent communication skills; Computer literate (MS Office proficient)
- Knowledgeable in preparation and analysis of income statements and inventory reports
- Proven skills in customer service, decision making and leadership

ACCOUNTING STAFF (Code: AS)
- Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy from a reputable school
- With at least 1 year experience in processing receivables/payables, bank reconciliation and preparation of FS
- Good communication skills; Computer literate (MS Office proficient)
- Responsible for the efficient evaluation of financial and operating control systems, procedures and practices

HUMAN RESOURCES STAFF (Code: HRS)
- Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Human Resource Management or equivalent from one of the top schools
- Excellent communication skills, Computer literate (MS Office proficient)
- With at least 2 years experience in Human Resources Management areas, preferably in Training, Compensation-Benefits or Recruitment
- Proven skills in customer service, decision making and leadership and a team player

TRAINING OFFICERS (TO)
- Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Human Resource Management or equivalent
- Excellent communication skills, Computer literate (MS Office proficient)
- With at least 1 yr experience in Training and Development, supervisory level an advantage,
- Can conduct training needs analysis, implement evaluation program
- Can design and customize training program; Conduct facilitate training courses
- Has background in other HRM areas; Compensation Benefits, Recruitment, Employment Relations

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATES (Code: CSA)
- Graduate of any 2-year or 4-year course
- Good communication skills, Computer literate (MS Office and Internet)
- Proven skills in customer service, decision making and leadership and a team player
- Willing to work flexible hours including weekends and holidays and be assigned in different areas

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN (Code: CT)
- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science/ Technology or equivalent
- Background in PC Troubleshooting (Hardware & Software repairs and assembly, LAN Installation Maintenance)
- Knowledgeable in MS Office, Internet use and Network games
- With at least 6 months working experience in related field is required for the position
- Willing to work flexible hours including weekends and holidays and be assigned in different areas

ON-THE-JOB TRAINEES (Code: OJT)
Students of any of the following:
- Computer or IT • Business Administration or Management
- Marketing • Economics • Accountancy • Psychology • Human Resources Management, etc.

Send or E-mail: RECRUIT on the Subject Line
- Application Letter with Job Code • Resume • 2x2 Photo
- Transcript of Records to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
6th Floor, The Centerpoint Building, Julia Vargas Avenue,
Corner Garnet Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
E-mail Address: recruit@netopia.com.ph

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- Well-developed written and oral communication skills
- Articulate, Aggressive and Hardworking
- With good interpersonal skills
- Computer literate
- Willing to be trained
- Experience in an automotive industry is a plus
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

SERVICE MARKETER
- Must be a College graduate, not more than 35 years old
- With excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- With at least 3 years of experience in Automotive Insurance Claims and Marketing

SERVICE TECHNICIAN/MECHANICAL
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or any Automotive related course
- At least one year experience in an Automotive Industry
- Preferably with Professional Driver's License

Please send your comprehensive resume with 2x2 picture and Transcript of Records to:
Core Automotive Resources, Inc. (CAR,Inc.)
Human Resources Department
2232 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City
Email : jlt@nissancarino.com Telefax : 894.5348

NISSAN

A CERAMIC EXPORTER
is in need of the following:

PLANT ENGINEER

Qualifications:
- Licensed Mechanical/Electrical Engineer
- With at least 3 years experience as Plant Engineer in a manufacturing company
- Computer literate
- Preferably residing in Pampanga or willing to be assigned in this area

SENIOR ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

Qualifications:
- CPA
- With at least 2-3 years supervisory work experience in a manufacturing company
- Computer literate
- Preferably female, will be assigned in Quezon City
- Willing to report to our Pampanga-based factory from time to time.

All interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumé, 2x2 latest photo to:

Box QC 2005-60
c/o Philippine Daily Inquier
GF St. Anthony's Bldg.
891 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Q.C.
or email at
ceramics_recruitment@yahoo.com.ph

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!!!

HEAD OFFICE - MANILA

SALES & MARKETING OFFICERS

Female, 25-35 yrs. old, Coll. grad., w/ strong interpersonal skills, dynamic, hardworking and result oriented, proficient in doing business correspondence, can formulate marketing strategy, superior, w/ analytical skills, can do market research. At least 3 years sales exp. preferably from construction or insurance company. Flexible, willing to do field work.

HR / ADMIN ASSISTANT

Female, 25-35 years old. College graduate of BS Psych / Bus. Admin or any related course. Honest, patient, diligent, at least 3 years working experience in all facets of HR/Admin functions, excellent in written & oral English Communication, proficient in computer MS Office.

Apply in person, bring: RESUMÉ W/ PHOTO & TRANSCRIPT
Knowledge of FOOKIEN is an added advantage

BLUE ROCK AGGREGATES CORPORATION
Suite 608 King Center, 57 Sgt. Rivera St., Q.C. Tel. 330-2889 to 91 loc. 109 & 104, F. 367-9834 E-mail: bluerockag@yahoo.com

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

OPPORTUNITY TO WORK ABROAD

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST

(Chemist or Chemical Engineer)

1. B.S. degree in Chemistry
2. Male/Female
3. Must have hands on experience with analytical instruments HPLC, and G.C., Dissolution, UV and familiarity with USP and NF.
4. H-1 Visa is an advantage
5. Resumé, Transcript of Records and 2x2 picture.

Interview will be held on Oct. 18-20, 2005 at Heritage Hotel, EDSA Pasay City. Please call Lilia Sta. Ana at 838-48-57; 0920-9525251 for the schedule.

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BRANCH MANAGERS (BM-10-05)
(For Edsa – Balintawak, Kalookan, Malabon-Concepcion, Masangkay, Paco, Quiapo, Sto.Cristo, Tutuban-Prime, Bacolod-Araneta, Sorsogon)
- Above average business and entrepreneurial skills
- With in-depth knowledge of marketing, credit & lending
- At least five (5) years experience as a Branch Manager in a universal / commercial bank
- Good leadership skills

BRANCH CASHIERS / SERVICE OFFICERS (BC-10-05)
(For Metro Manila, Cebu-Lapu-Lapu, Ozamis, Pagadian, Zamboanga, Visayas and Mindanao Areas)
- Business course graduate
- With extensive experience in cash operations
- Possess good marketing / selling skills
- With strong customer service skills

BRANCH ACCOUNTANTS (BA-10-05)
(For Metro Manila, Visayas and Mindanao Areas)
- With at least three (3) years Branch Operations or Audit experience
- Certified Public Accountant
- Assertive, meticulous and control-oriented
- With customer service skills

INSURANCE OFFICERS (IO-10-05)
- Certified Public Accountant
- With at least 3 years bank operations related experience
- Assertive, meticulous and control-oriented
- With customer service skills

PROJECT MANAGERS (PM-10-05)
- At least 5 years experience in Software Analysis and design
- At least 5 years experience in Project Management in a banking environment
- Working knowledge of multiple programming languages and operating systems and RDBMS

PROGRAMMERS (PROG-10-05)
- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's / College Degree in Engineering (Computer / Telecommunication), Computer Science / Information Technology or equivalent
- Knowledgeable in at least two of the following programming languages: C / C++, Java, Visual Basic, SQL and UBIX
- Fresh graduates may apply

SYSTEMS & METHODS OFFICERS (SMO-10-05)
- With at least three (3) years experience in re-engineering, standards setting and continuous improvement activities gained from the service sector
- Proficient in conducting time and motion studies and methods analysis
- With background in documentation of policies / procedures and systems testing
- With project management experience
- Possess above average communication and presentation skills
- Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering or BS Accountancy; preferably CPA if Accounting graduate

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICERS (HRO-10-05)
(For Head office & Cebu)
- At least 3 to 5 years experience in recruitment; experience in training and labor relations is an advantage
- With excellent communication, people management, customer service and negotiation skills
- Preferably Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management graduate

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS HEAD (FAH-10-05)
- With more than 5 years of substantial experience in Credit Evaluation
- With at least a college degree in relevant courses such as Business Administration, Accountancy, Finance or Economics; having an MBA or CPA would be an advantage
- With relevant experience in supervising people
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Good analytical skills; meticulous and with a keen eye for details

CREDIT DOCUMENTATION UNIT HEAD (CDH-10-05)
- With more than 5 years of substantial experience in the review and safekeeping of credit documents
- With a college degree in relevant courses such as Law, Legal Management, Business Management or equivalent
- With relevant experience in supervising people
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- Meticulous; with a keen eye for details

REMEDIAL ACCOUNT OFFICERS (RAO-10-05)
- Business course graduate
- At least three (3) years actual remedial management work experience
- Strong negotiating and transaction structuring abilities, highly analytical
- Perceptive, confident, a self-starter, can work well under pressure
- Good communication skills

ACCOUNT OFFICERS FOR HEAD OFFICE & BINONDO (AO-10-05)
(For Corporate - Account Management / Business Development)
- With three (3) to five (5) years experience in Marketing / Credit / Lending
- Excellent negotiation, presentation and analytical skills
- Aggressive, marketing & results-oriented
- Not more than 35 years old
- Fluency in Fookien for Binondo branches

MARKETING OFFICERS (MO-10-05)
(For Private Banking – Head Office, Housing / Auto Financing – Cebu, Insurance - Cebu)
- With three (3) to five (5) years banking experience in related fields
- For private banking, should have knowledge of investments
- For insurance, at least 5 years experience as broker
- Excellent negotiation, presentation and analytical skills
- Aggressive, marketing & results-oriented
- Not more than 35 years old

SALES OFFICERS FOR HEAD OFFICE, BINONDO & BRANCHES (SO-10-05)
- Marketing experience preferably with deposit portfolio
- With proven track record in account acquisition and maintenance
- With excellent communication & presentation skills
- Fluency in Fookien for Binondo branches

SALES ASSOCIATES (SA-10-05)
- Customer service-driven
- With keen interest in selling & dealing with people
- Pleasing and assertive personality
- Ability to speak Fookien / Mandarin is an advantage for Binondo Branches
- Fresh graduates may apply

OFFICE MANAGER FOR LEGAL DIVISION (OM-10-05)
- Member of the Bar
- At least two (2) years experience as Law Office Manager
- With experience in litigation, legal research and opinion
- Preferably male

Interested parties are requested to mail their resumé (with position code indicated at the upper right hand corner), transcript of records and 2x2 photo on or before November 15, 2005 to:

Human Resources Division
12th Floor, China Bank Bldg., 8745 Paseo de Roxas corner Villar Street, Makati City

Or via E-mail: **recruitment@chinabank.ph** with position code indicated on the subject line.

www.chinabank.ph

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
MARKETING MANAGER

A PRIME DEVELOPER OF LEISURE AND VACATION DESTINATION PROJECTS IS LOOKING FOR **DYNAMIC** AND **HIGHLY MOTIVATED** INDIVIDUALS TO MARKETS ITS NEWLY OPENED PROJECTS.

QUALIFICATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- PREFERABLY FOR THE NORTH AND MUST SPEAK THE DIALECT
- MUST HAVE EXPERTISE IN REAL ESTATE MARKETING AND SALES
- MUST HAVE PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN MANAGING & TRAINING REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND REAL ESTATE MARKETING AND SALES PEOPLE
- MUST BE WILLING TO CONTINUOUSLY RECRUIT AND TRAIN REAL ESTATE BROKERS & SALES PEOPLE
- MUST HAVE EXISTING BUSINESS NETWORKS AND CONTACTS
- MUST BE WILLING TO TRAVEL
- MUST POSSESS GOOD ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- MUST HAVE PLEASING PERSONALITY

INTERESTED APPLICANTS ARE WELCOME TO APPLY AND SUBMIT THEIR RESUMÉ AT:

LEXBER, INC.
#63 Panay Avenue, Quezon City
In front of St. Mary's College

FT

FINANCIAL TIMES

The *FINANCIAL TIMES*, one of the world's leading sources of business news and information, is expanding its Manila operation and requires additional staff for its data production team. The ideal applicants must meet the attributes and formal skills below and should be able to start as soon as possible.

INFORMATION EDITORS

- Be highly skilled in Adobe Acrobat, Quark Express or other desktop publishing software packages
- Had exposure to data production or computerized newspaper operation
- Have a good working knowledge of XML
- Excellent comprehension and English writing skills and a high level of attention to detail
- Able to work on a variable shift schedule including weekends and holidays
- Able to meet tight production deadlines
- Graduate of any four- or five-year course
- Previous experience working for a multinational company

Qualified applicants should post their detailed resume, cover letter and most recent photograph not later than Monday, October 24, 2005, to **The HR & Administration Manager** at the following address:

Financial Times Electronic Publishing Philippines Inc.
42nd Floor, Philamlife Tower,
8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Incomplete applications will not be processed
Visit our website www.ft.com

Ecologically Clean
ORGANO

ORGANO (PHILIPPINES) INC. a leading Japanese company, established a reputation as one of the pioneers in Waste Water & Water Treatment industry is in need of the following for immediate employment:

LICENSED CHEMIST

- 28-35 years of age
- 2-3 years working experience in the analysis & system process of pure, DI and waste water treatment systems
- able to supervise a staff of 3 to 4 persons
- can handle work pressure
- willing to work in Laguna area & work extended hours

LICENSED CHEMICAL / MECHANICAL ENGINEER

- ✓ below 30 years of age, male, well built
- ✓ 2-3 years experience in the operation and maintenance of water and waste water treatment systems
- ✓ computer literate
- ✓ able to get along with different types of persons
- ✓ willing to work in Laguna area and various project sites, work extended hours and on holidays

CPA

- below 30 years old, preferably female
- 2-3 years work experience in a manufacturing firm
- willing to work in Laguna area

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumé with 2x2 photo, transcript of records & certificate of employment to:

Mail : **ORGANO (PHILIPPINES) INC.**
Bldg. 3 LSL Compound Diode St.
Light Industry & Science Park of the Philippines I
Bo. Diezmo, Cabuyao, 4025 Laguna

E-mail : organoph@info.com.ph
Fax # : 049-543-0940

Advanced Contact Solutions, Inc.

9/F Citibank Center, 8741 Paseo de Roxas, 1227
Makati City, Philippines
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www.acspacific.com

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TRAINER

OPERATION SUPERVISORS

SHIFT MANAGERS

Send your resumé to:

recruitment@acspacific.com

One of the leading fast growing universal bank invites

ACCOUNTANTS

- At least (2) two years work experience either in Internal Audit, IT Audit or Accounting

SYSTEMS ADMIN. & NETWORK ENGINEERS

- At least (2) years work experience: Windows 2000/2003, AD, SQL2K3, Exchange, or Oracle9I DBA.
- Hands-on knowledge of CISCO / Nortel network equipment
- Working knowledge in TCP/IP

ACCOUNTS ASSISTANTS

- At least (1) year work experience in Corporate Banking or Accounts Management

We offer fast-track career growth and development to results oriented and customer driven professionals who will join our dynamic team.

Interested applicants are enjoined to send their COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, PHOTOCOPY OF TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS & RECENT 2" X 2" PHOTO TO:

HUMAN RESOURCES
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
MC P.O. BOX 2026. MAKATI CITY

JOB OPENING

The company that powers the No. 1 Prepaid Internet Card known as ISPx Bonanza is in need of competent professionals for the following positions:

Sales Manager
- Male/Female, 35 yrs old and below
- Must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Computer Science/Information Technology, Business Studies/Administration/Management, & Marketing, or equivalent
- With 5 years managerial experience in the field of sales, preferably from the IT industry or equivalent
- Can develop strategies forecasting and planning sales activities to support attainment of targets
- Must have strong leadership skills who can supervise, motivate, and coordinate an effective and dynamic sales force
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills, computer literate, pro-active, results-driven, and willing to travel
- Must have handled field sales force

HR Specialist
- Female, 35 years old and below
- More than 3 years of work experience in Human Resources field
- Experience in recruitment, training, performance management labor relations, and competency - based HR system
- Ability to create TNA and training modules an advantage
- Must have strong analytical skills with keen eye for details
- Must have above average oral and written communication skills
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Applications

PHP Programmer
- Male/Female, 30 years old and below,
- Proficient/Excellent in PHP 4.x
  - Object oriented Programming
  - System Analysis and Design
  - Database Design
  - Knows the following php technologies:
    - ADODB database abstraction layer
    - Smarty templating system
- Has experience with any following databases
  - MySQL 3.x and up
  - PostgreSQL 7.x and up
- Knowledge in Javascript is a plus
- Knowledge in usability is an advantage
- Good listener/ Fast learner/ Quick thinker
- Can work alone or on a team environment
- Open minded, can contribute fresh ideas to the team

Graphic/Web Designer
- Must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Computer Science or any related field
- Proficient in HTML, CSS, XML, DHTML, Adobe Photoshop, Premiere, Image Ready, Corel draw, etc.
- Proficient in Macromedia Dreamweaver MX, Flash MX, Fireworks, Illustrator, and in any 3D tool applications
- Applicant should possess strong background on the following skills: Dreamweaver, advanced in Adobe Photoshop, advanced in Flash, FTP, CSS, XML, JAVA and other design tools
- Working knowledge in PHP / MySQL is an advantage
- Should possess the following qualities i.e., excellent communication skills, well-organized, detail-oriented, positive and enthusiastic, punctual, good interpersonal relationship, willing to learn new skills

Helpdesk Support Representatives
- M/F, preferably 23 years old and below
- Earned a Degree in Information Technology or Computer Science or equivalent
- Alert, attentive and must have good inter-personal skills
- Physically fit, willing to work in shifts and must be proficient with the Internet and MS Office Applications
- Experience in Call Center an advantage

Interested applicants may send applications to the address below or e-mail to career@tri-isys.com

TRI-ISYS INTERNET
4th floor, AIC Center Escolta
cor. Nueva St., Binondo, Manila
Tel Nos: 2308777 loc 402-404

NOL GROUP

APL

A multi-national corporation and the leader in the global ocean transportation industry seeks Top-Notch Candidates For:

Marketing Analyst

- College Graduate preferably in Economics or Marketing
- With a strong background in research & development
- With above average intelligence
- With exceptional oral and written skills
- With excellent interpersonal skills
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Finance Analyst

- ☐ BSC Accounting graduate preferably CPA
- ☐ With strong Accounting background
- ☐ Computer literate
- ☐ Preferably with external and internal audit experience
- ☐ Extensive analytical exposure

We offer a good compensation package and the privilege to work, to be trained, and to be part of a multinational with over 150 years of experience in more than 80 countries around the world.

Send your CV together with a colored 2 x 2 photo of yourself and a copy of your transcript of records to "The HR Manager" APL CO. PTE LTD, HR Department P.O. Box 788 CPO 1099 Manila –or – Velco Centre, cor. Chicago & 13th Sts., Port Area, Manila

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*A major I.T. Distribution Company with over 19 years of extensive industry experience... **INVITES** professionals with flair for challenge and desire to become part of a fast growing organization.*

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*and... we want **YOU** to become part of our vision of becoming today's better solutions company.*

JOB OPENINGS

BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

- *Top caliber professionals with years of proven track record in sales.*
- *Have developed contacts and clients from specific segments of industries (I.T., call center, manufacturing, banking and finance, garments, printing, pre-press, retail and graphics/photo segment)*

- **Sales & Marketing Manager**
- **Account Executive / Sales Officer**
- **Marketing / Events Officer**
- **Telemarketers**
- **Network Engineers / Product Managers**
- **Graphic Artists**
- **Accounting Supervisors**
- **Company Driver / Messenger / Utility / Helper**

Interview schedule will be from Monday to Friday 9:00AM - 2:00PM. Bring Resume and recent photo

HRM DEPARTMENT
American Technologies, Inc.
#455 Gen. Bautista Street, San Juan 1500, Metro Manila
Tel Nos.: 723-0601 • Fax No.: (632) 723-7951
apply@ati.com.ph

Polaroid METAZA VERITAS SIEMENS PRINTRONIX FUJI XEROX APC IBM InFocus Roland COREL

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A US based, leading provider of innovative software products has immediate openings for talented, dedicated software professionals.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS

Job code: CPDV

- ☐ Work with software development and quality assurance teams in the Philippines and the U.S to deliver software products of outstanding quality.

Requirements
- ☐ Four-year degree in Computer Science, IT, or related field.
- ☐ 2+ years working as a professional software developer using client-server technology such as Gupta SQLWindows, Centura/Gupta Team Developer, PowerBuilder, Oracle Developer, Delphi, Visual Basic, C/C++, or similar languages and tools.
- ☐ Excellent knowledge and skills with relational database management (RDBMS) systems and SQL. Experience with PL/SQL and Transact-SQL. Good understanding of data modeling and Entity-Relationship Diagrams (ERD).
- ☐ Education or experience in project accounting, financial accounting, payroll, inventory, or purchasing.
- ☐ Proven track record of learning new products and technologies.
- ☐ Previous involvement in all phases of the software development lifecycle.
- ☐ Strong analytical & problem-solving skills and ability to troubleshoot problems in a timely manner.
- ☐ Excellent proficiency in written and spoken English.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR RESUME TO:

DELTEK SYSTEMS PHILIPPINES, LTD.
26th Floor, Tower 2
The Enterprise Center
6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1200
Phone 632-886-5059
Email: acphrcnt@deltek.com

IMPORTANT: PLEASE SPECIFY JOB CODE AS SUBJECT IN YOUR E-MAIL

Keppel Cebu

Keppel Cebu Shipyard, Inc.
Dad Cleland Avenue
Lapu-Lapu City 6015
Cebu, Philippines
Tel.: (6332) 3400081 to 86
3400088
Fax: (6332) 3400068
website: http://www.keppelcebu.com.ph

Keppel Cebu Shipyard, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Keppel Philippines Marine, Inc., which engaged in shiprepair, shipbuilding, steel fabrication and other marine-related repairs and services, invites candidates for:

PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Graduate of BS Naval & Marine Engineering or BS Mechanical Engineering
- Two (2) years experience in handling ship repair and drydocking
- Must have a strong personality, aggressive and a good leader
- Must be good in oral and written communications
- Computer competent

Interested candidates are kindly requested to send resumé and recent photograph on or before October 20, 2005 to:

HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
Keppel Cebu Shipyard, Inc.
Dad Cleland Avenue, LapuLapu City, Cebu
Telephone No. (032) 340-0081 to 89
Email: hrdept@keppelcebu.com.ph

(Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted)

A member of the Keppel Group, Singapore
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All expenses paid.
Immigrant visas for the entire family.

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Interested applicants may send their resumé & credentials by fax, courier or email to:

Grey & Company,
Unit 3101 Jollibee Plaza Building,
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center,
Pasig City 1605

For more details call (02) 687-7708;
telefax (02) 687-7789; or email
kfrancia@greyandcompany.com

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We are looking for

CAD Drafters

with knowledge in AutoCAD, Architectural Desktop, or Revit Building preferably Architects or with Architectural Background.

Please send resumé at spaceone@philonline.com

JOB OPENING!!!

Get that position you want!

AVAILABLE POSITION
✔ MANAGEMENT TRAINEE ✔ OFFICE STAFF
✔ MANAGERIAL POSITION

QUALIFICATIONS:
✔ open to all courses w/ or w/o experience
✔ at least college and vocational graduates
✔ male/female, 18-46 yrs. old, single or married
✔ willing to be assigned in Makati and Ortigas

NOTE: Hiring starts on October 17-22, 2005
8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Mon-Sat.

Apply personally at
6th floor 128 Vernida Bldg IV L P Leviste St Salcedo Village

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Collection Staff
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Disbursement Assistant
Marketing Assistant
Documentation Assistant
Account Officer
Account Analyst

If you are interested, you may come in business attire with your resume and copy of your transcript of records at **Human Resource Department, AFPRSBS, 424 Capinpin Ave., Camp Gen Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City** and look for **Mr. Poch Pinili.**

HR & ADMIN. MANAGER

- Male or female, not more than 35 years old, graduate of Psychology or Behavioral Science
- Must have at least 4 years of related experiences in the same capacity and have a strong understanding of the management of human resource and employee relations' function

ASST. AREA SALES MANAGER
*BUSINESS DEV'T. SPECIALIST
**ASST. MARKETING MANAGER

- Competent in preparation and execution of sales programs and good in writing business proposals
- *In-charge of market area analysis, site selection, development and profitability of co. owned stores
- **Has experience in formulation, set-up and execution of marketing programs and promotions

*ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
**ACCOUNTING OFFICER

- Male or female, not more than 35 years old, BS Accountancy graduate, CPA an advantage
- Have excellent computer skills and hands-on experience in the use of ACCPAC
- *Possess outstanding oral & written communication as well as interpersonal and people handling skills
- **Knowledgeable in bank reconciliation functions and preparation of financial statement reports

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- Male or female , not more than 35 years old, college graduate, with valid driver's license and at least 1 year related experience

CHECKER/ TIG WELDER
TRAILER/ LORRY DRIVER

Applicants who are willing to be assigned in Makati and/ or Cavite may submit resumes with 2 x 2 photo--

Masagana Gas Corporation
9775 Kamagong St., SAV, Makati City; Telefax. 890 3759
Email: hrd@masaganagas.com.ph/ mgc_pm@yahoo.com

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CALL CENTER AGENTS
(Part-time / Full time)
At least second year college level / graduate of any course; eighteen (18) years old and above; ability to effectively communicate in English; willing to work in various shifts including graveyard; typing speed (minimum of 25wpm)

SUPERVISORS / TEAM LEADERS
(Technical and Customer Service account)

TRAINER
(Outbound account)
Must have at least six (6) months - one (1) year supervisory / outbound training experience in a call center; must be an extrovert and must have an energetic personality; ability to multi-task; good time management skills

REPORTS ANALYST
College graduate; excellent in Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint; previous experience as Administrative Assistant is an advantage; ability to multi-task

MISSION CONTROL ANALYST
Six (6) months as a Mission Control Analyst and customer service experience in a call center; ability to work under pressure; meet deadlines and be accountable for the performance of others; demonstrates leadership skills, dependability and initiative; willing to work in shifting schedules

DATABASE PROGRAMMER
Very knowledgeable in Microsoft SQL Server, Crystal reports, MySQL, Visual Basic, Linux, Apache and Scripting languages; experienced in programming user interfaces and database processing under Web and Client Server environment

All positions require excellent communication skills and knowledge in Microsoft Office and Internet Explorer

APPLY in BUSINESS ATTIRE

Bring a copy of your resume at the:

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Recruiting schedule
Monday - Friday (except holidays)
8:00am - 5:00pm

The Recruitment Center will open SOON at the new EDSA Central Mall

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- Must be computer literate.

AIG AIG Credit Card Company Philippines, Inc.

Customer Service Associates (Code: CSA)
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Collection Associates (Code: CA)

- Must be graduate of any business course
- With excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- With strong customer service, sales & marketing orientation
- Applicants for TMA and CA must have determination to exceed assigned targets and work under pressure
- Applicants for CSA must be willing to adapt to a flexible work schedule
- Computer literate and a good team player

Interested applicants are advised to bring or send their resume, transcript of records and 2X2 photos to:

For Bank positions:
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2/F Salustiana D. Ty Tower,
104 Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village,
Makati City 1229
e-mail: PSB Recruitment@aig.com

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HR MANAGER

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree holder of Human Resources Management, Psychology or any related course
- At least 5 years experience as HR Manager preferably in a call center environment
- Strong English communication and problem-solving skills
- Knowledge of sound techniques in all aspects of HR management with particular emphasis on positive employee relations, leadership training and recruitment
- Ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with other management staff, frontline employees, the general public and clients
- General knowledge of the principles and practices of HR administration

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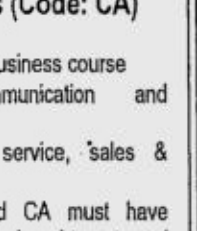

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Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005

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Text us your feedback: Inquirer paw name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

LIVING THE TECH-SAVVY LIFE

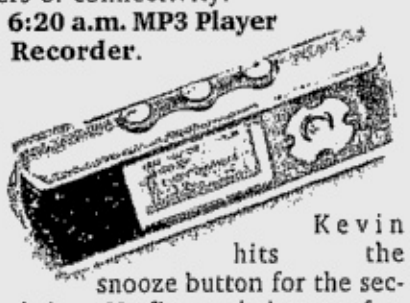
Being tech-savvy boosts work productivity

By Candy G. Villanueva
Contributor

HIS NAME IS KEVIN. HE'S AN IT consultant and just like almost everyone, he too gets up early in the morning for a whole day of being driven like a slave at work. Just like most of us, he is subjected to deadlines and quotas, demanding bosses and never-ending meetings. He too seems to be stuck in a nine-to-five routine. In fact, he is your average working Pedro, similar to us in almost everyway except for one thing: he is tech-savvy. This means Kevin enjoys the benefits of technology, and although his life on the surface seems just as demanding, somehow work is somewhat easier, and he always goes home less stressed.

Let's follow him through a typical workday to see how he meets his deadlines with ease and how he survives multitasking through the aid of bits, bytes and the wonders of connectivity.

6:20 a.m. MP3 Player + Recorder.



Kevin hits the snooze button for the second time. He figures he's got a few more minutes to spare when his alarm, actually his cell phone, goes off again. This time, it's his coworker calling to ask him to make a short introduction for the presentation. The person who was supposed to make it was coming down with a flu. Between breakfast and fighting his way through the traffic-plagued maze of the city, he doubted if he would have time to type a short introduction before the 8:30 a.m. presentation. Fortunately, he's got his MP3 player. After a quick breakfast and shower, he jumps into his car and starts composing the introduction aloud. Taking notes is his handy MP3.

Every time he hits the break on a red light, he presses the player's pause button, rewinds and listens to his composition. He smiles, thinking how he made the right decision to sell his portable CD player for an MP3 player. MP3 players are considerably smaller than CD players. With an MP3 player, Kevin doesn't have to lug around dozens of CDs to bring with him hundreds of his favorite songs wherever he goes. Not much larger than his keychain, this device plays and records audio files. Because it also records, Kevin's player is more than just a mini audio entertainment source; it's also perfect for market research, conference recordings, interviews, seminar recordings and even voice e-mail. Kevin also uses his MP3 player to study the French language for his much anticipated business trip before the end of the year.

PHOTOS BY KELVIN MONTALBO

His 128MB player allows him to record up to 2,180 minutes. Not bad he thinks for a P4,000 investment. The player also has a portable USB (universal serial bus) hard driver, an alarm scheduler, and a hearing aid function. MP3s are available with capacities from 128MB (megabytes) to 80GB (gigabytes).

8:07 a.m. Laptop. Everything seems to be in place as Kevin gets to the office. He has about half an hour to prepare for his presentation. Kevin is not the slightest bit frazzled. He opens his laptop and checks his presentation. The 1.6 GHz laptop boots up immediately. He's glad that he was able to convince his company to get him a thin but powerful notebook PC in place of his old clunky desktop. This way, wherever he is, he is able to work.

In fact, he finished his PowerPoint presentation in the airport while waiting for his flight back from Cebu yesterday. At about 2 kilograms, his notebook is lightweight and easy to carry around. In fact, it's just like carrying a briefcase. "Why get a laptop when the size and weight is not portable?" questions Kevin.

Over brand, Kevin looks at warranty and battery life. On the latter, he says it's important to get a laptop that allows you at least six to eight hours of computing. For warranty, look for one that offers three years. Kevin reasons that most computers act up only after about a year. He also suggests looking for a package that includes licensed software and an operating system. For specifications, consider at least an Intel Pentium M 1.6GHz, 256MB to 512MB memory, 15.1-inch LCD screen, 40 GB to 80GB hard disk, combo Drive to DVD RW, 54MBPS WLAN (wireless local area network), 56K Modem, LAN and Windows XP Home. Be prepared to spend at least P70,000 for this portable office.

12:10 p.m. Wi-Fi. The presentation ended without a glitch. Kevin is now in a restaurant with his colleagues celebrating over buttered shrimps when a client calls requesting for a quotation by 1:00 p.m. It is a good thing he is heading to a 2:00 p.m. meeting so he brought his PC notebook with him.

After lunch, he invites his officemates for coffee at the nearest café where free wireless internet (Wi-Fi) is supported. He boots up his Wi-Fi ready notebook and is instantly connected to the Internet. Before 1:00 p.m., the quotation is in his client's mailbox. Wi-Fi or wireless fidelity allows wireless enabled computers or personal digital assistants (PDA) to connect to the Internet within the proximity of an access

BEING/P.8★★★

'I want to change my boss'

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR
Josie O. Santamaria

I AM SO BORED with my job and so frustrated with my career. I don't know what to do to get out of the rut I'm in and to have a bright future.

I'm 35 years old, female, and married with two children, ages 5 and 9. My husband is doing well in his work because he has no complaints unlike me. Things are okay with him.

I know I can do more and better things but I'm not given a chance to show my abilities and potentials in a more challenging job. My boss, a supervisor and a woman, is so concerned about her own career. To do this, she does everything to look good to her boss. Her boss doesn't care for any of the people in her department. She attends meetings every day, delegates everything to my boss who is considered by everyone as the "Little Big Boss," and gives us the impression that she is so busy because she is such an important person.

I just do what my job description says and nothing more. Even if I try to do my work well and gives suggestions, my boss doesn't notice and doesn't give me any credit. My ratings in the performance appraisal she has given me for the past five years are always satisfactory, nothing more.

I want to change career and change bosses. Can I do this in my present company? How? At my age, it is difficult for me to get a good job in another company so I prefer to stay in my present company. Please help me.

Mrs. Helpless

I have received letters from readers who had written to complain about their bosses who didn't care about their careers, who grabbed credit for the work they did, etc. I have also received complaints from bosses about their subordinates. I have seen both sides of the fence, so to speak, and have tried to give an objective view from the top. Let me respond to your needs for challenging work, recognition and higher status in your company.

You have to accept your supervisor and her superior as they are. You cannot change their way of thinking, their actions and habits, to make these favorable to you. Who they are and what they do are givens. You must concentrate on yourself: what you need to think and do differently.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Analyze the problem

You write that if you make suggestions about your job, your boss doesn't respond positively to these. You also write that you are doing only those things that are within your job description. Is this the cause or the consequence of your boredom? If this is the cause, then you are being reactive. If it is a consequence of your boredom, you are creating your own problem. This reaction will not serve your purpose; therefore, you need to look at things differently and behave differently.

Knowing yourself, ask what are the things that you like and enjoy doing? What position in your department and in other departments fit this job description?

Example. One nurse in a good company was so bored with her job. She had so much time in her hands. She knew that making *chikahan* (petty conversations) with the few employees who regularly come to have their blood pressure checked, dispensing medicines for symptoms of common illnesses, and reading newspapers, etc. were not helping her in achieving her career goal. She knew what she wanted—a career in human resources.

Towards this goal, she started helping someone in the recruitment section of the HR department without calling the attention of anyone to the help she was giving, except the receiver of her assistance. She became so good in checking test examinations of applicants, and later, conducting prepreliminary interviews, and giving her insights about the applicants from their answers to the interview questions.

She made known her desire to transfer to the HR Department to the person she was helping. This person told the HR manager. When a vacancy occurred in the HR department, she was interviewed for the position and recruited. In six years, she

I WANT/P.9★★★

What's inside

Reflections for the Working Soul p.8★★★

Working Wounded p.9★★★

INTELLECTUAL Property Office Director (IPO) General Adrian S. Cristobal, Jr. (center) signed a memorandum of agreement with Philippine Chamber of the Pharmaceutical Industry Inc. (PCPI) President Michael Francis Dela Cruz (left), and Department of Health (DOH) Undersecretary Alexander Padilla (right) last Tuesday, Sept. 20 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Makati City to strengthen strategic public-private partnership of IPO, DOH and PCPI aimed at working on issues involving intellectual property and public health including the affordability and accessibility of medicines to consumers.

TOWER awards 2006 board of judges named

FORMER DEPARTMENT OF LABOR and Employment Secretary Benny E. Laguesma, chairman of the Rotary Club Of Manila's The Outstanding Workers Of The Republic (Tower) Awards Committee, announced the composition of the board of judges who will select the Tower awardees for 2006 to wit, Senator Mar Roxas, chairman, and POEA administrator Rosalinda D. Baldoz, TESDA Deputy Director General Milagros Hernandez, TUCP Assistant Secretary-General Alex Aguilar, and Employers Confederation of the Philippines Chairman Miguel B. Varela, as members.

Metrobank Foundation Inc. is the major partner of the Rotary Club of Manila in the Tower Awards which is an annual nationwide search fro nonsupervisory, blue collar workers, male or female, who have demonstrated outstanding performances and made significant contributions in their respective workplaces.

Other cooperators and sponsors of the project are the International Labor Office–Manila, The Chinese Filipino Business Club, Petron Corporation, the Technological University of the Philippines, the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila, Central Colleges of the Philippines, STI and other state colleges and universities outside Metro Manila.

Deadline for submission of nominations is on March 31, 2006 at the Rotary Club of Manila's office at 2nd floor, Delgado Building, Port Area, Manila or at any of the Metrobank branches throughout the country.

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- Minimum of 5 years experience in teaching and supervision

(Maritime School)
- BS Marine Transportation/ Marine Engineering Graduates w/ MA/MS unit in any field
- At least 2 years Shipboard Experience as Chiefmate or Second Engineer

(College of Art and Sciences)
- Ph.D from a reputable school
- With noteworthy publications

(College of Business Administration)
- DBA or MBA preferably CPA
- With noteworthy publications

(College of Computer Studies)
- At least MS from a reputable school
- With noteworthy publications

(College of Engineering)
- At least MS from a reputable school
- With noteworthy publications

FACULTY

(School of Nursing)
- Registered Nurse
- Master of Arts in Nursing graduate or Master's Degree in Allied Health
- With At least 1 years clinical practice in their field of specialization
- Preferably with teaching experience

(College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business Administration, College of Computer Science and College of Computer Engineering)
- Graduate of BS Psychology, Computer Engineering, Information Technology, Information Management, ECE, Accountancy, English, Marine Transportation or Social Sciences.
- With good scholastic records.

Interested applicants may send their resume at the local HRD office of any AMA COMPUTER COLLEGE,ABE, SASN, ASM, ACLC and NMA.
professional organizations

NON-ACADEMIC

We need the following for our nationwide requirements:

SENIOR MANAGER for INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- BSCS/BSCO/BS ECE Graduate with working experience in Wweb, SQL, JAVA, ASP, and Win NT 4.0 Installation and administration. Visual Basic, C++, MS Access, MS SQL, Visual Foxpro, CGI, System Analysis and Design. Has adequate training in programming languages and techniques/software documentation. Knowledgeable in SAD, Programming and Software.

SENIOR PROGRAMMER
- BSCS/BSCO/BS ECE Graduate with working experience in Win95/98, Office 97, and Win NT 4.0 installation and Administration, Visual Basic, MS Access, MS SQL, Crystal Report, System Analysis and Design. Has adequate training in programming languages and techniques. Knowledgeable in SAD, programming and software.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (to be assigned in the Visayas and/or Mindanao area)
- Must have 5-7 years marketing/ sales experience in a managerial capacity
- MA/MBA graduates from reputable schools here and abroad
- With excellent communication skills

ACCOUNTING MANAGER
- CPA
- Graduate of BSBA , BS Accountancy
- At least 3 years relevant work experience in Supervisory capacity

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
- Graduate of any Business course
- Minimum of 2 years experience as Marketing/Sales or relevant experience.
- Preferably with background in the printing industry

HR SUPERVISORS (Nationwide)
- Graduates of Psychology or any HRD related field
- With exposure on labor relations
- With at least 2-3 years relevant experience

ENGLISH LANGUAGE OFFICER (Supervisory level)
- English, speech, theatre arts or mass comm. graduates preferred
- Strong writing and scientific research capabilities
- Very good oral and written English communication skills
- Experience at call center, materials development, teaching and/or speech training an advantage

Highly proficient in Microsoft Office and DTP programs

AUDIT SUPERVISORS/ACCOUNTING SUPERVISORS
- Accountancy graduates, CPA preferred
- At least 3 years relevant experience

SYSTEM AUDITOR/ANALYST
- BS Computer Science /BS Accounting, CPA
- With 1-2 years experience in programming, coding, testing debugging, hardware, networking and Computer auditing

ACCOUNTING/ INTERNAL AUDIT ASSISTANT
- Graduates of BS Accountancy
- At least 6 months relevant experience

CASHIER
- Graduates of BS Accountancy
- At least 6 months relevant experience

COMPUTER LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
- Graduate of BS Computer Science, Computer Engineering or any related course
- With at least one year relevant experience

LIBRARIANS (Nationwide)
- Licensed Library Science graduate
- 1 to 2 years relevant experience

NURSES (Nationwide)
- graduate of BS Nursing
- Licensed

Licensed Pharmacist
- Preferably male

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FREE SEMINARS & ASSESSMENT

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- Alabang - Wednesdays @ 6PM - See contact details above.
- Baclaran - Daily @ 10AM, 2PM or 5:30PM - See contact details above.
- Binondo - Mondays to Saturdays - See contact details above.
- Cubao - Daily @ 10AM, 2PM or 5:30PM - See contact details above.
- Malate - Mondays to Saturdays @ 10AM & 2PM - See contact details above
- Makati City - Monday to Thursday @ 10AM - 6PM - See contact details above.
- Robinson's Galleria - Daily @ 10AM, 2PM or 5:30PM - See contact details above.
- West Avenue, Quezon City - Daily @ 10AM, 2PM, 5PM - See contact details above.

PROVINCIAL SEMINARS

- NAGA CITY - Wed @ 10AM, 2PM & 5PM / Sat @ 10AM & 2PM - See contact details above.
- DAGUPAN CITY - Daily @ 10AM & 2PM - FREE Seminar & Assessment - See contact details above
- October 22 LIPA CITY @ 9AM - Max Restaurant Lipa City, Pres. Laurel Highway, Pdahan Sabang [Call Susan (02) 879-0313/0919 363-9491 | Emily (02) 879-0311/0916 661-7891]
- October 22 MALOLOS BULACAN @ 9AM - Hiyas Convention Center, Capitol Compound, Malolos City [Call Alice (02) 879 0308 / 0919 353-9492]
- October 22 LIGTASAN, TARLAC CITY @ 9AM - La Moja Rica Hotel Mc Arthur Hiway, Ligtasan, Tarlac [Call Angie Pamintuan (045) 611-2051/2053 | Grace Antiojo (02) 879.8396]
- October 23 SANTIAGO, ISABELA @ 2PM - King George Hotel, Bonifacio Ave. Cor. Maharlika Highway Victory Norte Santiago City [Call Front Desk (078) 682 5508 | Gold (02) 879 0217 / 0916 749 6320]
- October 23 ANGELES CITY @ 9AM - Marlin Mansions Mc Arthur Highway, Balibago, Angeles City [Call Lanie Andrada (045) 322 2002 | Susie (02) 879 0216
- October 23 URDANETA, PANGASINAN @ 2PM - Mayfie Hotel & Restaurant, Mc Arthur Hi-way, Nancayasan [Call Bebes (075) 568 2640 | Sidney 0919 748 4538]
- October 29 TUGUEGARAO CITY @ 9AM - Admiral's Restaurant - 20 Rizal St., Tuguegarao City [Call Front Desk (078) 844-1305 | Gold Vinarao 879-0217 / 0916 749-6320]
- October 30 NUEVA VISCAYA @ 2PM - Bread 'n' Bites - National Highway Sol. Nueva Viscaya [Call Mona (078) 326-6085 | Gold Vinarao 879-0217 / 0916 749-6320]
- November 12 IBA, ZAMBALES @ 10AM - Hopeful Beginnings Institute - Rhoi Bldg. II National Hi-way [Call Dones Cruz and Lourdes Canlas (047) 811-3588 [Lyn 0927 552-5074 | Ness 0919 473-2442]

"Don't let yourself be misrepresented: Transact only with authorized CIC Consultants."

SKECHERS

- **Retail Operations Officer** — **Code : ROO**
  Female, 25-35 years old. Graduate of any business course with 3-5 years relevant work experience preferably gained in the field of retail, operations, merchandising and administration particularly from the footwear/apparel industry. Strong planning, leading and organizing abilities with excellent communication, interpersonal and problem-solving skills. Highly-analytical, resourceful, and result-oriented.
  Candidate must be able to effectively deal with all personnel functions including staffing, compensation, training, transfer and promotion.
- **Internal Auditor** — **Code : IA**
  Female, at least 23-29 years of age, Certified Public Accountant. With 3-5 years work experience in formulating and implementing audit programs. Possess strong analytical skills and high degree of objectivity. Resourceful in data gathering and proficient in the preparation of audit reports for Management. With good communication and presentation skills and able to effectively deal with people from all levels of the organization. Trustworthy, hardworking, mature, and highly motivated individual who can work under pressure with minimum supervision.
  Candidate must be able to conduct systems evaluation and program analysis and can make practical and executable recommendations to improve work processes and company procedures
- **Management Trainees (Office-Based)** — **Code : MT**
  Female, single, at least 21 to 25 years old. Graduate of Accountancy, Management, Marketing or any relevant business course. With excellent scholastic records preferably with Latin honors. Outstanding mathematical and analytical abilities with innate business/entrepreneurial skills and a keen eye for details. Possess excellent leadership skills and can effectively communicate with people from all levels of the organization. Trustworthy, hardworking, mature, and highly motivated individual who can work under pressure with minimum supervision. Work experience in a retail company an advantage.
  Candidate must be able to efficiently plan, direct, and monitor operations and handle sales staff for the attainment of sales targets.
- **Store Supervisors** — **Code : SS**
  Female, single, 21 to 25 years old. Graduate of any business course. Willing to work in a retail environment and on mall operations schedule. With good communication and entrepreneurial skills and business sense. Trustworthy, honest, mature and able to work with minimum supervision. Customer-service oriented with pleasing personality. Work experience in a retail company an advantage.
  Candidate must be able to effectively lead, train, motivate and discipline sales personnel. Will be responsible for the over all store operations such as sales monitoring and achievement of quota, inventory and cash management, merchandising and sales staff management.
- **Accounting Assistants** — **Code : AA1**
  Audit Assistants — **Code : AA2**
  Female, single, 21 to 25 years old. Graduate of Accountancy with good scholastic records. With high mathematical and analytical abilities. Proficient in computer applications. Trustworthy, honest, mature and highly-motivated individual who can work under pressure with minimum supervision.
  Candidate must be able to deliver results and meet deadlines for the efficiency of the department's operations.
- **Sales Assistants (Office-Based)** — **Code : SA**
  Female, single, 21 to 25 years old. Graduate of any business course with good scholastic records. Proficient in computer applications. Deadline and result-oriented. Trustworthy, honest, mature and highly-motivated individual who can work under pressure with minimum supervision.
  Candidate must be able to deliver results and meet deadlines for the efficiency of the department's operations

Previous applicants need not apply.

Human Resource Department
Unit E-2601A, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre, Tektite East Tower, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City E-mail : hrd@i-trend.com.ph

The coin has two sides

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

MY REFLECTION FOR TODAY MAY SEEM A BIT OFF track, but hang on and you'll see it has a great deal to do with working at one's work.

Chaos—not only in the workplace but in society as well—may be caused in ways not readily seen, when people do not fulfill the demands of their jobs. A glaring example would be the prevailing situation in the country today, where the delicate issue of the separation of Church and State occasionally comes in the limelight. The Gospel today draws a dividing line between Caesar and God. Against this scenario, we can view our country's situation as portrayed in mass media. Given the media's yen for reducing true-to-life characters into media caricatures, the public does not immediately see that media has practically classified the top newsmakers into two: politicians and priests.

Didn't you notice how the two figure in the frontpage headlines? That would have been perfect—and mind you we're not here to pass moral judgment on anyone or anything—if priests and politicians were portrayed as priests and politicians.

Now, everybody (or most people anyway) knows what priests are supposed to do, and what politicians should stick their noses into as well. But from media reports, we see politicians acting as moral guardians, pontificating, passing moral judgments on others; on the other hand, we see priests sounding like senators, saying how government should be run, etc.

Shouldn't politicians be taking care of their constituents specifically in the temporal level, and priests looking after people's spiritual welfare? Somewhere along the way, they've switched costumes—if this media portrayal is true, then we're forgetting Jesus' exhortation, so prepare for a downhill slide! *(E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

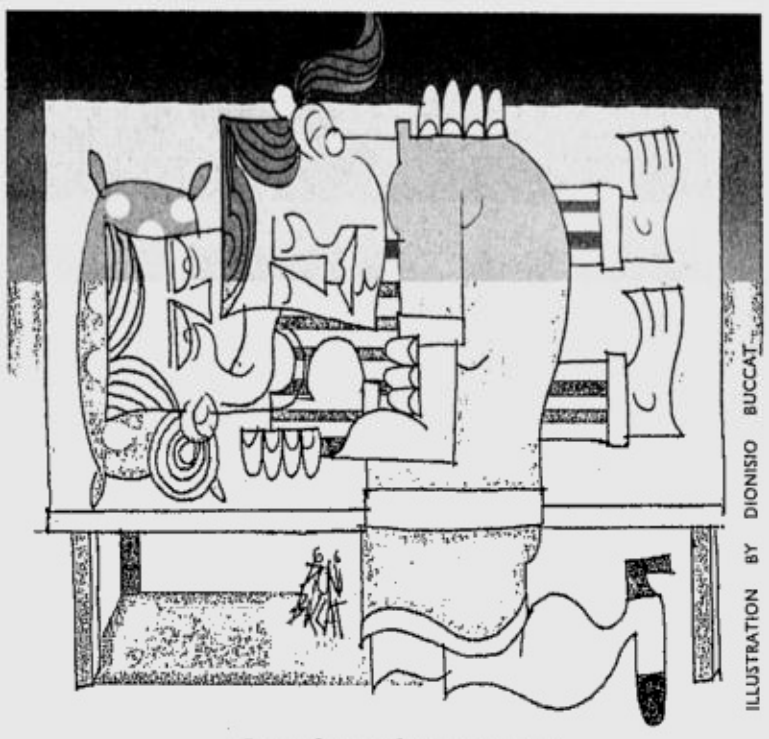

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-21

At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Persons behind the tasks

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

MEETING VARIOUS GROUPS OF FILIPINO MIGRANT workers abroad, I often see them radiant with joy as they are told that our country considers them "modern heroes" due to the great sacrifices they make and the money they send to their folks, which helps prop up our sinking economy. But as a pastoral worker, I remind them that their contribution is not only in terms of economic support for the country benefiting the Filipinos, but also in terms of spreading God's kingdom through their exemplary way of working, which shows their deep and lively faith in God. Their commendable manner of living and working is their way of "repaying to God, what belongs to God."

I was touched when I heard the story of Liza, a caregiver working in Rome, who was chided by her companions when she insisted on leaving in middle of their party to walk 20 kilometers during a transportation strike to prepare the food for her ward—an elderly, disabled lady. She explained calmly to her complaining peers that she wanted to show to her employer—the son of her charge—that she truly cared for her even if she was not kin and that she did not work only for the money.

I believe that everyone in the workplace can do what Liza did—to see and value the persons who are behind the tasks, structures and materials in the work environment. Those who employ us, our families and those who benefit from our work and above all the Creator to whom everything belongs, should be the greater reasons why we work. *(E-mail the author* at mfvg@skyinet.net)

Being tech-savvy boosts work productivity

From page 6★★★

point. The area covered by the access point is called a hotspot. There are dozens of Wi-Fi hotspots in the country like this cafe affording Kevin mobility and connectivity. Most airports, cafes, restaurants and even hotels offer free public access to Wi-Fi networks.

When shopping for a new laptop, make sure your unit is Wi-Fi ready. If you're stuck with your old unit, you may buy a USB Wi-Fi or a Wi-Fi card as long as your laptop has a USB port or a PCMCIA (Personal Computer Memory Card International Association) slot. These peripherals may cost you between P1,500 to P3,000.

2:03 p.m. CD/DVD Writer. Kevin is in another meeting with his client. They are discussing the new interactive website that Kevin's company will develop. She shows him the dozens of high resolution pictures that the company wants to be used in the site. Kevin requests for a copy of the set of pictures and wants to send it to his team immediately. Unfortunately, the client only has one copy of the CD and promises to send him a copy soon. Kevin has a better idea. He borrows the CD and loads it in his notebook, using his CD burner, he makes a copy while she waits.

CD/DVD writer

For those like Kevin whose lives revolve around their computers, storage is a big issue. Having no backup plan is like going through life without an insurance policy. Floppies or zip drives for backups are cheap insurance policies. With the amount of documents and pictures we store in our hard drives, a more reliable storage media is necessary. CD-RW (rewritable) drives are excellent and price-reasonable solutions. Fortunately, the newer laptops come with their own combo drives.

If an upgrade is not in your calendar anytime soon, consider purchasing an external CD burner. A CD can store up to 650MB to 900MB worth of data. For heavier files, consider DVD burners. DVD writers can also burn CDs. Look for one that is of DVD+R DL and DVD-R DL format because they are supported by almost any manufacturer. P3,500 to P5,500 for a DVD writer is a reasonable investment to insure your files. *(E-mail feedback to* candyvillanueva @pldtdsl.net)

(To be continued next week)

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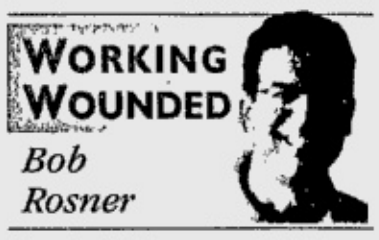
How do you survive an idiot boss?

DEAR WW: I WORK FOR AN idiot. I've been looking for a new job to get away from him, but I can't seem to land anything. Help!
Dilbert Lives



Have you heard about the latest trend in plastic surgery? Doggie facelifts. On surgeon said he sees a lot of rich women who have already done everything that they could do to themselves, so now they are getting facelifts for their dog's low-hanging lips and drooling problems.

Far be it from me to criticize how a rich person spends her money, but this does illustrate a key challenge in dealing with an idiot boss. The desire to try to make them over in the image you think they should have. This is silly to try with your dog and dangerous to try with the idiot who just so happens to sign your paycheck.

Until you can find someone sane to work for, I've listed a few strategies to deal with some of the most common types of idiot bosses, below. For more, check out "How to Work for an Idiot" by John Hoover (Career Press, 2004).

Do you give your micromanager boss a lot of updates on what you're doing? Micromanagers are usually more interested in quantity than quality. So I'd give it to them by the shovel full. Give them constant updates via voice and e-mail. Show them reports. Plow them under until they plead for mercy.

Do you keep your activities in plain sight for your paranoid boss? The last thing you want to do is make a paranoid boss more paranoid. Trust me, I've got experience here. Since a paranoid boss can see even the most innocent conversation as a threat, you've got to keep them very informed about everything that you're doing and why you are doing it.

Do you bring everything back to their agenda for the egomaniacal boss? The last thing that an ego maniac wants to see is work that won't somehow come back to make them look good. That's why it's so important to tie everything you can back to their goals.

Do you connect the dots for your dense boss? It never ceases to amaze me often we assume that people will connect the dots at work. And how seldom they do. For a dense boss, I like to outline the problem that I'm addressing, the actions I'll be taking and the results that I'm hoping to see.

Do you keep a paper trail for your less-than-honest boss? Paper trails are not only something that bosses can use against you. Keep a file of e-mails, write down a record of your conversations that include date and time, etc. whenever their actions are questionable.

Some doggie surgery is considered medically necessary, for example when a Boston terrier's small nose interferes with its breathing. And there can be times where you have no choice but to try an operation on your boss. But proceed with caution or you could end up in the dog house.

(Mr. Rosner, an internationally syndicated columnist, author and speaker, is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)

'I want to change my boss'

From page 6★★★

made three lateral transfers within the HR Department. During these years, she was sent to attend seminars on various HR functions.

She read books about and on the HR functions; she asked and listened to experienced HR people when given the opportunity to attend annual conferences of the Personal Management Association of the Philippines . To make the long story short, after 10 years, she is now the HR manager of a good IT company.

Take charge

Do not wait for someone, e.g., your boss or your boss' boss, to take care of your career. You must take charge of your own career. You must have a career strategy. Your strategy consists of the following:

1. **Define your career goal within your company.** By a certain time frame, what position will you be holding based on what you like to do? Write this goal in specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) way. An example of a SMART career goal: By year 2014, I am holding the position of HR manager in this company or some other good company. Having a clear career goal will give you focus and the drive to achieve it.

2. **Upgrade you resumé.** You need this for internal placement. Include in your resumé the following:
   - Career goal
   - Achievements at work that you can lay claim to
   - Skills you have
   - Work experience. List down the positions you have held. For each position, cite your main tasks and major accomplishments. Both tasks and accomplishments must use action verbs.
   - Educational background
   - Training programs attended
   - Personal data

   I suggest you look up a good book or browse the Internet for tips on effective resumé writing.

   It is important for you to do your resumé so that you become aware of your achievements, your skills, etc., and can talk about them with self-confidence when you are marketing yourself and being interviewed.

3. **Talk to your boss.** Make an appointment to see her. Prepare what you will take up with her, such as:
   - Your desire to do more challenging tasks. Be sure you can tell her what tasks you can do and which will make your section more efficient.
   - Ask her to delegate to you some of her tasks that she may not have the time to do.

4. **When she gives you tasks to do, ask for the time frame.** Do these tasks well and deliver them on schedule.

5. **Think of your boss as your No. 1 Customer.** She is the reason why you have a job. She is the customer whom you must please, just as her own boss is her No. 1 Customer whom she tries to please. Find ways on how you can please her; know her standards and expectations and live up to them.

Your current objective is to do excellent work that delights your boss and which will make her look good to her own boss whom she wants to delight, too. If you do excellent work and don't get the affirmation you need from you boss, ask her. You can say: "Ma'am, what do you think of the XYZ report I submitted to you last Wednesday?" If she says "Okay," probe, "What's okay about it so I can repeat them in future reports? And what can I improve?" Listen attentively and take note of what she says.

Even if the section and department you are now in are not related to your career goal, you must still do a good job in the current position you are occupying. Be courteous and respectful to your boss and to her boss. Needless to say, do not criticize them to others. This is part of your acceptance of them. Besides, you don't know what their motivations and intentions are; therefore, do not render judgment on them.

Meanwhile, you can start networking with people in the section/department of your choice, much like what the nurse did in the true-to-life case I cited above. If you take on work from this person, do so discreetly, without fanfare and without telling others about it. Make sure that you give this assistance outside of office hours and without sacrificing your current responsibilities. God bless you.

(Josie O. Santamaria has a Ph.D in psychology and is a practicing psychologist, counselor, management consultant, executive coach and mentor. She has designed and conducted training programs in leadership, behavior management and career development. Her company, Career Systems, Inc. which she and her husband Jorge manage with daughter Desiree S. Urbi, specializes in career development, leadership and management development programs, and outplacement counseling services, as well as provide consulting services in human resources development and organization development. Communicate with her through carsys @careersystems.com.ph.)

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The PJ Lhuillier Group of Cos is a dynamic organization managing and operating businesses in diverse industries categorized into financial and insurance services; retail and trade; property and resort management; dining; communications and information technology. The core business of the group is its pawnshop services.

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PLDT is a full service provider of voice, video and data services. Founded on Nov. 28, 1928, its Charter extends until 2028, which authorizes the Company to provide virtually every type of telecommunications service in the Philippines. These services include digital leased lines for domestic and international communications, high-speed data transmission, high-performance packet switching service and private networking.

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SECURITY BANK
SECURITY BANK CORPORATION (SBC) was established in June 1951, and was formerly known as Security Bank and Trust Company. In 1989, Frederick Y. Dy and his partners acquired a majority control of the Bank and immediately began building up its resources and capital. In 1994, SBC was granted a universal-banking license, and the Bank's shares were listed on the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE:SECB) in 1995.

SHOEMART, INC.
On October 1958, Henry Sy, Sr. opened the first Shoemart Store, as SM as it was then called, along Rizal Avenue in downtown Manila. Mr. Sy, who is considered the visionary of Philippine retail because of his innovation in the industry, conceptualized a chain of shoe stores is characterized by a distinct merchandising lay-out never before attempted in the country. Today, SM is a dynamic group of companies with core business in the retail merchandising and shopping center industries.

SL TEMPS, INC.
SL Temps, Inc. (Division of Searchers & Staffers) took off the ground last November 1995. It is ably supported by its 2 sister companies, Searchers & Staffers Corp., an executive search firm which services the Metro Manila Market and SL Search Corp., an overseas recruitment company servicing clients in Singapore, Guam, Vietnam and others.

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ST. PETER LIFE PLAN, INC. (SPLPI) is a Pre-Need Company, which offers traditional and affordable life plans to all segments of the society. It was incorporated by Francisco M. Bautista on October 27, 1970. SPLPI is a charter member of the Philippine Federation of Pre-Need Plan Companies, Inc. It is registered and licensed with Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) and complies with all pre-need regulations.

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The phenomenal success of its brand in the Philippines, particularly of SKECHERS (now the country's market leader in fashion-athletic footwear), has earned Trendworks International Corporation both local and international recognition.

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GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

MAYOR MARIDES FERNANDO

City Mayor is Tickled that the Pink Kids Are Getting Sex Education

by Alya B. Honasan
photographs by Ernie U. Sarmiento

WHEN we arrive at the sparkling Marikina City Hall, Mayor Maria Lourdes "Marides" Carlos Fernando is in a huddle with a dozen men and women. "It's about the SEA Games," an assistant informs us, visibly proud that the city may be part of the upcoming international sports extravaganza. It appears that some facilities will need upgrading in time for the December event and, from the firm look on Fernando's face as she sits at the head of the table, chances are, it's going to happen.

En route to having her photo taken, Fernando sashays into an exhibit room between the glass-walled offices ("You really can't hide around here," she assures), a scene-stealer with her neat, cropped hair, bright fuchsia pantsuit, matching stilettos, and modest knit wrap. She says hello to a vice mayor from Nueva Ecija, come to visit the model government office and learn about—what else?—good governance.

"We're just trying to focus on what we can do locally, so we're not affected by what's happening in the country," explains the second-term mayor of the city that has, among other accolades, been cited by the World Health Organization as one of the healthiest cities in Asia in 2004, and by the Asian Institute of Management as the most competitive metro city in the country in the same year.

"Trabaho lang (It's just work)," Fernando says with a smile. The Saturday after this interview, there's a day-long Salute to the Filipino Soldier, parade and all.

Yesterday, Fernando hosted the launch of Marikina's THQ or Teen HealthQuarters, a project with the Foundation for Adolescent Development (FAD), Inc. In a prime example of social franchising, Fernando has acquired the license to replicate this hip, youth-friendly center that gives kids aged 15-24 access to information, education, amd medical services related to sexuality and reproductive health—the first city mayor to take the responsibility upon herself.

To page 2

A go-getter's attitude, a work ethic developed early in life, and a husband who started the job have certainly helped Marikina's lady mayor keep her city in great shape. As she launches another project to get sex education for the youth in the mainstream, BF's better half talks about being a public official, woman, wife and mother

How Two 'Lolas' Got Their Second Wind, *p.3* • The Essence and Passion of Italian Cuisine— With a Filipino Twist, *p.6*

Marides ...from page 1

According to FAD President Aurora Silayan-Go, "The Marikina mayor sets a model for Local Government Units (LGUs). She is investing in a physical layout and ensuring that there is a budget to operate it. She's so efficient! If she likes the idea, she will find the correct way to do it."

Spooky statistics

Of the many NGOs who seek the mayor's favor, why favor this one? "I thought they had a program for adolescents that I felt we needed at this time."

The statistics are certainly spooky: 55 percent of all teenagers are mothers by age 20, and 62 percent of reported STI (sexually transmitted infections) and new HIV-AIDS cases are kids in the 15-24 age range. "I think it's a matter of educating our youth, getting them started with the right values so things don't get compounded later in life," says the mayor.

Fernando has delegated the responsibility for the THQ to the City Health Office and the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK). "I thought the SK was not using their funds towards any concrete, long-term direction; it was just basketball and tournaments. This is something that we hope will give teens a good foundation. If the SK embraces it—and we have SK chairpersons in every barangay—and if they are active, we can sustain this."

With the likes of Judy Ann Santos talking about STI and Paolo Bediones warning against drug abuse in videos, it helps that the THQ, which is being built right across the city hall, is attractively packaged. "That's what the youth want. If they don't buy into a program or can't relate to it, then it won't be successful. *Kaya yan*. (It can be done)."

Though she appears totally in control, Fernando admits that public office means "a lot of hard work and a lot of patience." Her life has changed drastically since she became a public official. "I have no more privacy and free time! That people have reacted well, though, is so gratifying. There is the satisfaction in knowing that your organization is delivering."

People were admittedly skeptical when Fernando took over as mayor at the end of husband Bayani Fernando's term in 2001; he has since moved on to the controversial chairmanship of the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA). The sidewalks were painted pink (her favorite color), squatter houses were hidden behind pastel walls, and critics complained of change that was merely superficial.

"Another wife just taking over from her husband—I was aware of that impression," Fernando says. "They wanted me to fit into BF's shoes, but they were so big! They were always comparing his style and my style, so I made a conscious effort to break away from that. I have my own ideas of what's important." Still, she concedes that BF does influence her. "I've lived with him for so long, I've picked up some of his ideas," she says. "But by and large, I have my own temper and priorities." And that does not necessarily mean she's more lenient than the famously uncompromising MMDA chair.

"He's strict and firm, but very patient. I'm actually more intolerant than him."

Suffering intrigues

At the beginning of her husband's political career, Fernando recalls being "absolutely" uncomfortable with the idea of being a politician's wife, "but after nine years of him being in office and suffering through intrigues, I got used to it. Besides, you can't get anything done if you listen to all the criticism."

Her own style: Above, Fernando scrubbed city hall clean when she first got there; at left, Marikina's THQ will be modeled after this one in Baguio, where PMA cadets get tested for STIs

The latest fuss was over how starlet Anna Leah Javier was all over her husband during the launch of the MMDA's public service program last Aug. 22—and how he seemed to enjoy every minute of it, allegedly prompting the missus to walk out. "They made an issue out of that," she says with a restrained laugh. "I went to the toilet and left because I had another appointment, and that was misinterpreted. It's not like they're having an affair or something!"

After 22 years of marriage and one daughter, 20-year-old Tala, set to earn her degree in International Business this year, it should take more than that to undermine their marriage.

The mayor certainly brings a lot to the partnership. Born in Quezon City, Maria Lourdes Carlos was the eldest of five daughters of chemical engineer Meneleo Carlos and his wife Filomena, both of whom worked in the family business, leaving the girls to mind the house. The oldest girl went to Poveda Learning Centre for elementary and high school, and became an accomplished cook at a young age; she can still whip up a mean lasagna and other Italian dishes. "My parents made sure I took all the lessons possible—piano, hula dancing, ballet, typing," Fernando recalls. By the time she was in her Hotel and Restaurant Administration course at the University of the Philippines, she had a small catering business with friends.

Blind date

After graduating in 1978 and working for a time with some five-star hotels in Manila, Fernando went on to take her Master of Professional Studies in Hotel Administration at Cornell University in New York, and worked as a designer for the food facilities design department of Marriot Corporation in Bethesda, Maryland. She eventually returned home mainly because "I missed my family."

She met her future husband on a blind date arranged by her best friend in February 1982. Bayani was already 36 and raring to get married, while his love interest was all of 24. "He was already running his own construction company," Fernando recalls. "It wasn't love at first sight, but I liked his maturity, his wisdom, his directness."

In a previous interview with Metro Magazine, the MMDA chair, for his part, remembers being impressed by her being "so organized... She's actually prim and proper, and she's sweet. She's very considerate and level-headed—all the good things."

By December of the same year—almost the last day of the year, actually, as Bayani had given his girl an ultimatum—they were married at the San Agustin Church, and the bride was dainty in a Malu Veloso gown. In 1985, Tala was born; in 1987, Bayani would run for mayor of Marikina and win.

"We complement each other," Fernando says when asked what makes the relationship work. "We talk a lot, although at this point in our lives, I complain that we don't have time for each other anymore. Our daughter is also busy, we're all such workaholics. We just schedule vacations together when Tala is out of school."

Contrary to perception, the *unica hija* isn't spoiled, as her folks just don't have the time to pamper her. "She has to be pretty independent," Fernando says. "I can't say which one of us parents is stricter, although he's more conservative, so his tendency is always to say no. I don't worry too much about her, I just pray." As she also told Metro, "I don't get riled up by little things. I think there are bigger things to get upset about in this world."

Own last priority

Such as when things move too slowly in Marikina, which hardly happens these days. "*Ayoko ng mabagal!* (I don't like slowness!)" Fernando exclaims. She's in her office by 8 a.m., and rarely leaves before 7 p.m. "I'm my own last priority right now. Saturdays and Sundays are hectic, as Bayani and I both work seven days a week. Our time together is usually Sunday dinner, so I tell my secretary, *puede ba*, please don't schedule anything."

Even her idea of indulgence means patronizing her own; she goes to spas in Marikina, especially one where the reflexologists were trained in Marikina's women's center, and goes to a local aesthetician to keep her skin in good condition. She eats out with old friends "to keep sane," and hardly gets to shop nowadays except to get gifts. "I'm a wholesale buyer now, or I buy last minute at airports when I travel. Luckily I have girlfriends who I can make *paki* with—as in, I have a wedding, can you get me something blue?"

If she's noticeably slimmer these days—down to a fighting weight of 115 lbs from a high of 128, she says—it's because "I work at it! I choose the food I eat—more vegetables—and I drink tea." She also ballroom dances for an hour at home twice a week, with a dance instructor on call for when she's headed home and hoping to work up a sweat with her favorite dance, the swing, before ending her day. "It's easier to lose weight when you enjoy what you're doing. Going out to dance is such a hassle, as you have to dress up *pa*. This is like having my own gym at home." BF doesn't dance, but they keep the harmony at home, Fernando says with a laugh, because she dances while he sings his lungs out. "Once I came home and Tala reported to me, 'I can't believe it, he's been singing for six hours!'"

Today, Fernando is looking at generating more employment for Mariqueños and attracting more investors to her city, who have come in ever since Marikina cleaned up. When Fernando first assumed office, she recalls that she was like a "housewife," taking alcohol and detergent to scrub dirty aluminum frames and filthy sofas in city hall. "Can you imagine the germs? It's not just about being clean, though, but an attitude of excellence. It's like New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani's broken window pane idea: If a neighborhood is rough, the people will be rough. If the environment is clean, people think clearly."

Fernando is unapologetic about painting her city pink. "If I wanted, this whole building could be pink," she waves a hand at City Hall. "But that wouldn't be in good taste. When it was Bayani's time, this place was green. When I became Mayor, I wanted to send a message of transition and change."

Any plans for a third term? "Hmm, I'm not sure yet," Fernando says coyly. "We'll see." She still seems a shoo-in for that one, however. And when she sees those election returns, we're betting the lady mayor will be tickled pink. Q

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A family of workaholics: Celebrating Tala's 18th birthday two years ago

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DECADENT DESSERTS

Start rediscovering your sweet passions at Circles Event Café at the Makati Shangri-La with a slice of Flourless Chocolate Cake, a cheesecake sampler, puffed pastries and various flavors of panna cottas. Dip fruits and marshmallow at the chocolate fountain or try specialty desserts like bread pudding, creme brulé and fruit crepes topped with chocolate chips and creamy sauce. For inquiries, call 813-8888 ext. 7588/7599. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Two Poems

by Jun Cañizares

1. Letter to A Friend

Still in the valley you left behind
The boom-boom-boom of the old tribal drum continues
Culture warriors search wordsign to lifesign
Thus we make intact the petals of the sacred rose.

The sidewalk office of the repair watchman
Where you discussed poetry not once
It's now taken over by a vendors' band.
Fidel the watchman is forever gone.

That happy university of the streets' corner
Is often visited by a backward look
The learners congregate somewhere
To open the common time book

To find that all have gotten amusedly rich
Of age- and in their own ways
Nevertheless, sometimes scratching an itch
We catch images to share, nothing to miss.

We thrive in the loving news about each other
Our racial song survives as we care
In our chromosomes this is the color rare
Would it abound this generation after.

2. Dancing with Word

During a word ideas live
Into good stories
Not only the scribes' sacred gifts
But also the city's health.
For life is psychic
Mainly if we do not forget
We do not get sick
In fact religions are built on it.
Indeed what gain it is
If the word's worth is not received
The soul losses illumination
Of up spiralling thoughts.
Loveful the man of word
A saving feature
For without corruption
With him dances the world.

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <poetry_sim@inquirer.com.ph>

by Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
photographs by Erik Liongoren

How Two 'Lolas' Got Their Second Wind

Whether as source of pleasure or means to self-affirmation, Gilda Cordero-Fernando and Sylvia Ventura have turned to art in their seventies—and discovered new energy, as evident in their upcoming exhibit

Not fading into the sunset, but painting it: Cordero-Fernando and Ventura

TALL her a natural-born anarchist, rebellion being second nature to her.

At the age of six, Gilda Cordero-Fernando—arts and culture awardee, book publisher, fiction writer, theater and fashion show producer, bon vivant, Bench image model, mother of four, grandmother of nine, and most recently, watercolor artist—knew that she had to learn to be on her own. There was no way she would take after her mother.

"Mom was my enemy," she recalls without rancor. "During my time, parents were extremely controlling so I learned early on to fight back. All my life was devoted to doing the opposite of what my mother told me. I never learned to cook because she was an excellent cook. I got my sense of colors from her but I so hated being dressed in pink lace that I developed my own fashion sense," says this woman who, at 75, cheekily blends gold brocade pants with a loose lace blouse, a revealing drape of maroon and yellow *retazo* (fabric scraps).

With her mother, it had always been "learning through the negative route," she says. Thankfully, she managed to resolve her "embattled relationship" with the older woman before she passed on in 1997.

Compelled by her parents to take up teaching, then considered "the only decent job for a girl," she was a flop at the profession, Gilda reveals. The firstborn of only two daughters (sister Tess is 13 years younger), she grew up thumbing her nose at convention, choosing to be contrary rather than conventional. "I got so used to rebelling that it became part of my nature. Sometimes I think it became excessive."

But habits die hard, and even marriage to a young corporate executive failed to curb Gilda's outrageous behavior. Her most daring feat, she reveals, was riding a bike in the moonlight—naked!—when she was a young bride and a thick screen of trees made their Panay Ave., Quezon City compound a safe haven for latter-day Godivas. Even today, Gilda considers "*Aswang*," her riotous stage production blending music, mythology and fashion, as the embodiment of what she has always wanted to be in life: an Original.

She confesses to being apolitical. "I always feel guilty about it, but I also subscribe to the point that you do what you're good at. I feel I'm not savvy enough to talk politics."

Classy Filipiniana

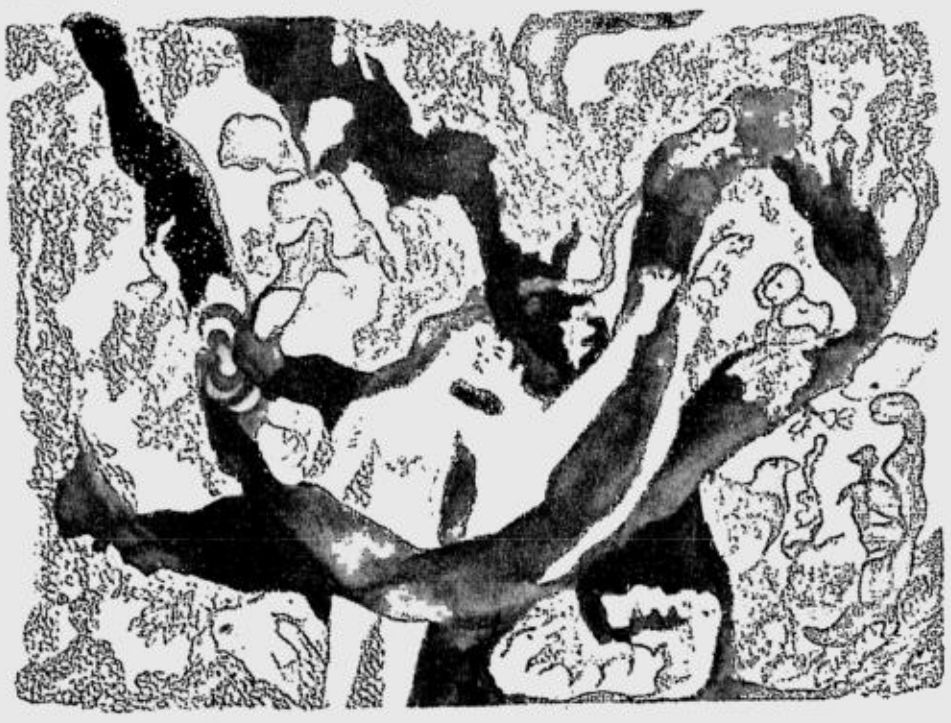
Known for publishing classy Filipiniana books ("Turn of the Century," "History of the Burgis," "Ancestral Houses," "The Soul Book," "Pinoy Pop," etc.), Gilda has always espoused a keen Filipino consciousness before it became fashionable. But even that, she muses, is a throwback to her father, a doctor who was a *pensionado* (pre-war scholar) to the United States and was thoroughly pro-American.

She faced her biggest parental battle yet when a friend introduced her to Marcelo Fernando who, she recalls, was slim, brown, and different from the squeaky-clean guys she had met from other schools. "His gang was into weightlifting when it was mainly a sport for thugs. They smoked, drank in bars, and some rode motorcycles." But Elo was also "refined and sophisticated, and subscribed to the New Yorker Magazine, a strong silent type with some mysterious underground current." The moment her parents felt she was falling for Elo, they made things difficult for the couple.

"They worried that I might get married, that we might have sex." Well, they did—after a secret wedding when Gilda was 22. "We were married on July 4, 1952 but when Independence Day was moved to June 12, that became our wedding anniversary," she reveals.

She raised four children: Bey (who died of kidney problems in 1995), Mol, Wendy and Arcus, "with all the boys learning to cook for sheer survival." She's also *Lola* Mad (for mother) to her grandchildren. She and Elo celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2002.

"He's very supportive," Gilda says of her husband who has always been behind her many creative ventures. As for her, she could wish for nothing more than "sit in a chair beside him when he's not feeling well and give him some comfort."



Cordero-Fernando's "The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil"

Ventura's "Amaryllis"

Life has been good even with the hubby seriously ill, and Gilda has found time to indulge in what used to be a source of childhood pleasure: art.

"I took some lessons from Cheloy Dans and Fernando Sena. *Mas masarap pala ito sa* writing! (This feels much better than writing!), says the Unesco grant awardee for her children's book, *"Ningning."*

"Painting uses the right brain so one relies on instinct, not logic, in choosing colors. You also feel much closer to God because like him, you share in the process of creation."

Although she's been painting for some years now (a children's book, greeting cards), Gilda is holding her first major art exhibit, *"Paraisong Gulogulo"* with writer Sylvia Mendez Ventura from October 22 to 26 at The Podium in Ortigas, Mandaluyong City, and from Oct. 27 to November 5 at the Liongoren Gallery in New York St., Cubao. The occasion will also see the twin launch of her book, "The Last Full Moon: Lessons on My Life," and Ventura's "A Literary Journey with Gilda Cordero-Fernando," a critique of her short fiction.

No big deal

The exhibit's no big deal, Gilda demurs. "I'm not trying to prove anything," she says. "I'm just so glad that other people aside from my husband and children can finally view my paintings." Hopefully, she adds, laughing, her art will get a different reception from her husband's very candid reaction every time she asks him, "Dad, look at my new painting. What do you think?" And he would honestly and guilelessly reply, *"Grabe, ang pangit!* (It's ugly!) Why don't you draw something more normal, like the sunset or a nipa hut?" But then, that wouldn't be Gilda.

Meanwhile, for writer Sylvia Mendez-Ventura, art is self-affirmation. "It's something I like to do to prove to myself that I still can," quips this 70-something mother of four grown-up children and grandmother of 12. Painting is actually a hobby she started in her 40s, until teaching and writing took up most of her time. Coming back to it wasn't too difficult, adds this co-author (with Thelma Kintanar) of two books on art, "Self-Portraits: 12 Filipina Artists Speak," and "Self-Portraits 2: 14 Filipina Artists Speak."

"We had this group of senior citizens called Women Plus organized by Gilda that had artist Cheloy Dans as a member," she recounts. When it was Cheloy's turn to host the group, she showed slides on the history of art that impressed her, says Sylvia. The artist later volunteered to teach them painting for free.

Cheloy started them off with flowers, a theme that Sylvia took to immediately. "I look to Georgia O' Keefe for inspiration," she says of her oversized watercolors of lush blooms. "Sometimes when I see a flower, I want to take a picture so I can paint it later," she says. But she doesn't like to get stuck to just one subject. "I'd like to move on to landscapes."

Although she's won several writing awards including a Palanca for short story in 1970 and a fellowship at the UP Creative Writing Center, Sylvia reveals that she'd rather be a painter, "but I'm not that good. I'm just a Sunday painter while writing is my profession."

In the genes

It's probably in the genes. Her father, Mauro Mendez, edited the pre-war Philippine Herald and Manila Tribune before he joined the Philippine mission to the UN. Her mother, Paz Policarpio Mendez, used to edit a woman's magazine. Sylvia herself, the second of six siblings, teaches Shakespeare at the Kalayaan College. At the University of the Philippines, she used to handle literature and composition classes.

Sylvia had her first exhibit last year at the Megamall. Titled "Floral Medley," it was a social success though not a commercial one, she volunteers. "I guess art is not really a priority among people. Money is tight and I'm not a name painter."

That did not discourage her from holding her second exhibit, "Bulaklakan" at the Podium from Oct. 22 to 26, and at the Liongoren Gallery from Oct. 27 to Nov. 5. Her book, "A Literary Journey with Gilda Cordero-Fernando" will also be launched during the exhibit. "I guess you could call it my second wind," says Sylvia, who adds that painting has taken hold of her life. "Sometimes I can't sleep because I imagine my hands holding a brush and painting. I focus on solutions to a painting problem, and that gives me insomnia. Often I don't want to go out because I'd rather paint. Unfortunately, I have so many other things to attend to that I can't return to my artwork until two or three days later."

When she's not grappling with the challenge presented by her art ("watercolor is a very difficult medium,"), Sylvia dreams of painting the town red. "I'd like to have more time to go ballroom dancing!"

GUYITO Power

GUYITO, the official mascot of the Philippine Daily INQUIRER, takes centerstage as the newspaper marks its 20th anniversary in December. Festivities will be highlighted by the unveiling of 20 Guyito carabao sculptures based on the character created by chief cartoonist Jess Abrera, and translated into the three-dimensional version by sculptor Juan Sajid Imao.

The INQUIRER has invited 20 of the country's veteran and emerging artists to paint the fiberglass sculptures based on the anniversary theme, "The Power of Knowing." They are: Malang, Bencab, Kidlat Tahimik, Fernando Sena, Salvador Convocar, Soler, Steve Santos, Caña, Lydia Velasco, Ernesto Patricio, Bing Siochi, Roel Obemio, Tres Roman, Wilfredo Offemaria, Bin Samonte, Jef Samonte, Romeo Forbes, Rex Tatlonghari, Anton Balao and Jack Salud.

The carabao sculptures will be donated to 20 selected cities/municipalities nationwide, to be chosen based on their high schools' rankings in the Regional Finals of the Quiz Bee Competition. Miniature versions of the Guyito sculptures will be given to the top 20 companies that have supported the INQUIRER in the past two decades.

From January to May 2006, INQUIRER representatives will visit the 20 selected schools/cities to turn over the sculptures. In addition, an INQUIRER Campus Journalism Workshop will be held in each school. The one-day lecture/workshop will feature INQUIRER reporters, editors and columnists who will discuss specific journalism topics and share their expertise on effective writing, editing and layouting. The number of student participants will be determined by the school's available venue. Delegates will be given a handbook on journalism styles, methods, ethics and best practices.

INQUIRER president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez said the complement of anniversary activities underscores the need for knowledge. In marking its 20th year, INQUIRER particularly hopes to motivate students to become achievers. "Through these projects, we hope to inspire the young to value reading and use it as a tool to attaining their dreams."

Sunday INQUIRER Magazine profiles the artists who have made the Guyito undertaking possible.

Stevesantos He Almost Chopped Up Guyito and Served Him a la Carte

by Elvira Mata

STEVESANTOS had big plans for Guyito. "There are so many things you could do with a project like this," the artist says. "I thought of showing him with mud from his hoofs up to his knees. *Yun lang. Di ba ang kalabaw lagi namang nakababad sa putik?* (Aren't carabaos always immersed in mud?) But later, I thought it wouldn't be appropriate. Perhaps if I were an experimental artist like (Roberto) Chabet," he says.

Whew! Thank God, Stevesantos is a magic realist painter. Next idea, please.

"Then I thought of chopping him up and presenting him in pieces on a table—the head, the tail, the shank—like what you would expect to see in a market. But the instructions were to show Guyito as a whole and not in parts," he continues.

Correction: In the '70s, Stevesantos painted in the style of magic realism. Since then, he's developed an affinity for the abstract.

"Or I could exhibit him upside down. I could do many things," he says.

Definitely, abstract.

Rebel carabao

In the end, Stevesantos painted Guyito red, gave him a saddle with a dancing red sun right smack in the middle of the back and a line art rendition of nipa huts and rice fields on the sides.

It looks like Guyito, symbol of the Filipino everyman, is on his way to a town fiesta, not to a mud bath, the butcher or a taxidermist.

So many ideas came to Stevesantos while contemplating the Inquirer icon. Why not immerse the carabao in mud, chop him up or hang him upside down? In the end, he settled for a fiesta mode

"Kasi pula, sa unang tingin, mukha siyang rebelde (With red, he looks like a rebel at first glance)," Steve muses. "*Ngayong tapos na,* he reminds me of the papier mache horses they make in Laguna."

Guyito, he observes, is a familiar figure on INQUIRER's the front page. "He's everywhere," he says. "Sometimes he's on top or at the bottom of the page. But he's always funny. I think that's why he became an icon."

Steve, the eldest son of Malang, was exposed to art at a very young age. It was not surprising that he followed in his father's footsteps, painting in a style similar to his, and even working a number of years as art director for glossies and a business magazine in Hong Kong.

"In the beginning, I was painting in the semi-abstract style just like my father," Steve says. "Then I discovered Andrew Wyeth." He started doing simple but detailed works in the style of America's famous proponent of magic realism with watercolor as his medium.

Realistic monochromes

Steve became famous for his signature images—a pail left in the open, clothes hanging out to dry, shanties on the roadside. He later applied this technique to landscapes, sometimes using acrylic. Then he adapted a less detailed but still realist style, with a predisposition for monochromatic hues. This served to highlight his skills in drawing and composition.

In the '80s, he made the big and inevitable leap to abstraction. Landscapes still served as his subject, but his works ran along three directions: The first was spare and chromatic, the second was hyper realistic in detail (you'd need a magnifying glass to fully appreciate it) and the third was street scenes viewed at eye level or from an angle.

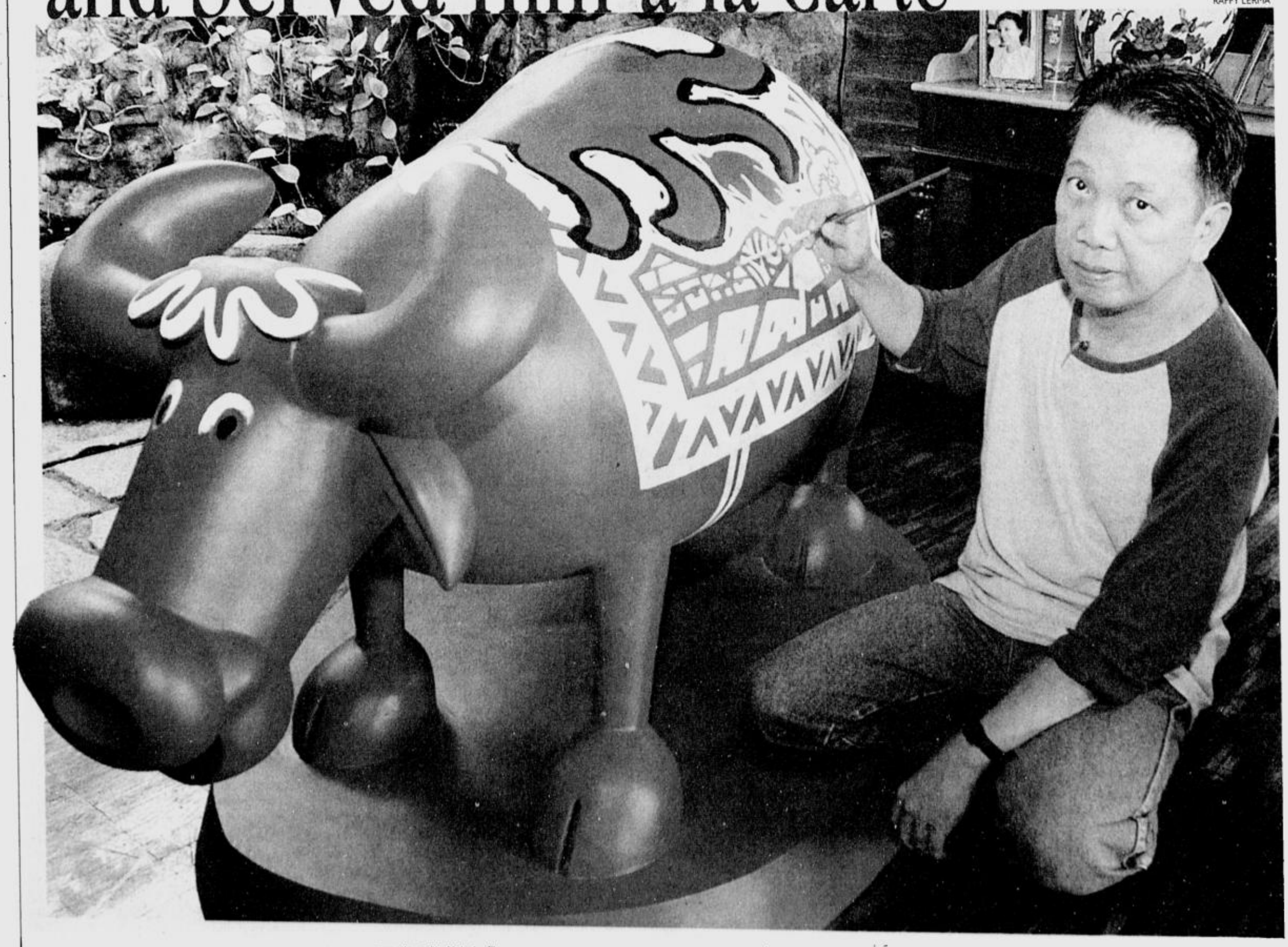
Steve admits to being a computer nerd, and is up to date with the latest graphic arts software from Adobe Illustrator to InDesign. He has designed coffee table books like "Art Philippines" and "Ang Kiukok," annual reports, brochures and logos.

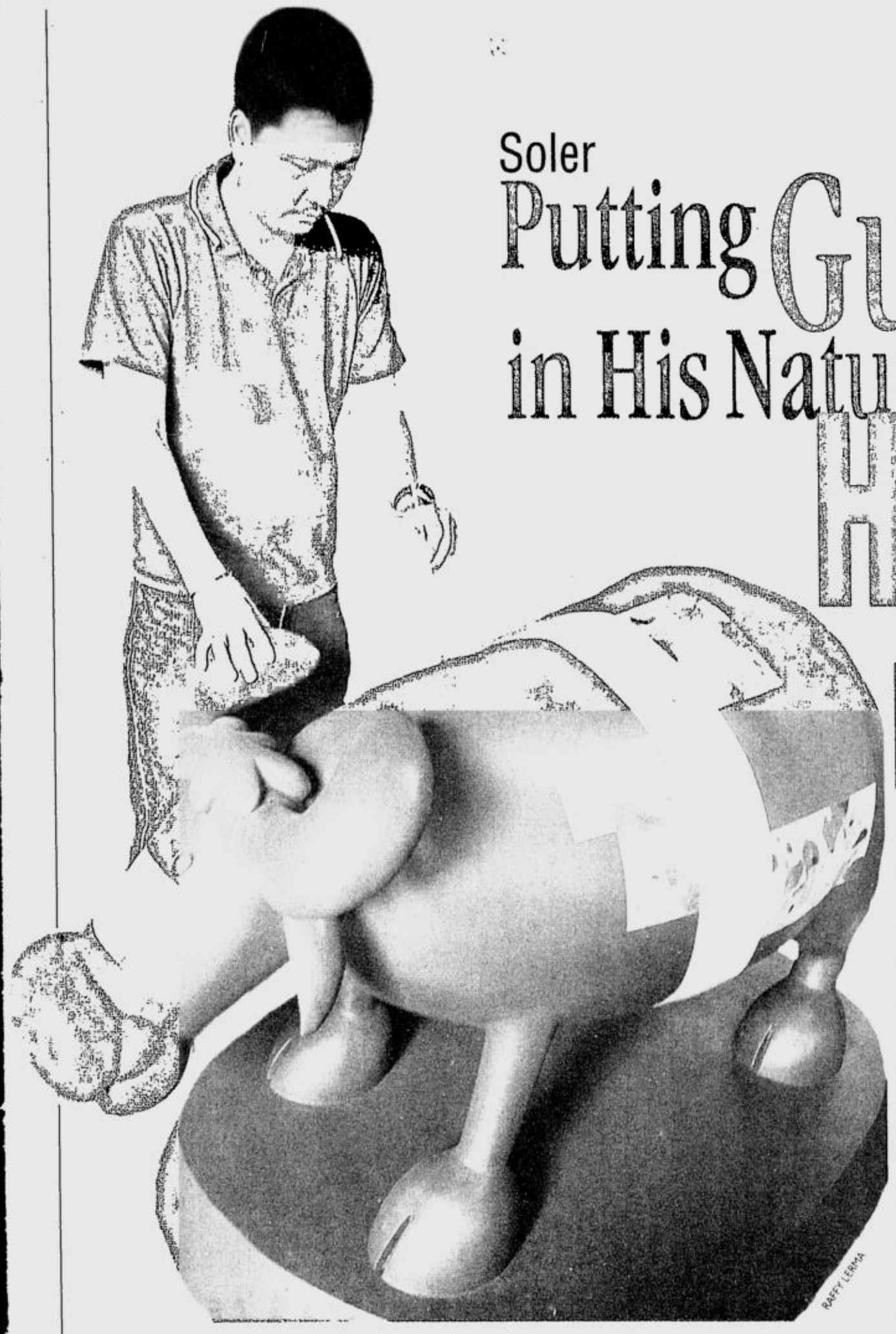
He is a member of eArt Philippines, a group of 16 digital artists who, a few years ago, worked together on a 25-foot "Mallarium," a huge mall-inspired rendition of Juan Luna's "Spoliarium."

In January, he held his 16th one-man show titled "Landscapes" at SM Megamall, featuring 25 pieces rendered in Japanese ink and watercolor.

INQUIRER art critic Constantino Tejero was there and chronicled the changes in Steve's style: "Formerly a proponent of magical realism a la Wyeth, the artist still creates images characterized by sharp-focus details but now in panoramic views instead of close-ups. His visions of earth and sky alternate between serenity and menace: still trees, neat grassland, black clouds, a tornado brewing, a thunderstorm breaking in the sky. By rendering these sweeping vistas in monochrome, stevesantos has created imagery that still looks realist, maybe romantic in tone, but not sentimentalized."

RAFFY LERMA





Soler

Putting Guyito in His Natural Habitat

Instead of painting themes, Soler works in a series—leaves, roots, trees. When he rendered Guyito in his latest series of stones and gardens, the mascot looked right at home

by Elvira Mata

HE first saw Guyito in the living room of the main house.

The fiberglass carabao was about three feet tall with the girth of someone who badly needed to go on a diet. He was all white, difficult to budge, and there were three of him—one for Malang and two for sons Steve and Soler to work on.

"He was bigger than I expected," Soler Santos says, confessing he was intimidated by Guyito's size. This was also the first time he worked on a three-dimensional figure. So while Steve did studies on paper and Malang directly sketched on the carabao, Soler took his time pondering the theme (the power of knowing) and how to paint on a curved surface (Guyito's bulging tummy).

Soler lives in the same compound as Malang and brother Steve. Their studios used to be in Marisan, the family-owned building on West Avenue, which has a gallery, a frame shop, café and pastry place and other offices. But the building is being expanded and their studios are still under construction.

Semi-abstract

"The carabaos were so heavy, we couldn't move them, so we decided to work in my father's living room," says Soler, who used to paint nature in the hyper-realistic style, but lately, has veered towards the semi-abstract.

Like their painting styles, the three have different work habits. Malang starts painting at the crack of dawn. Steve works whenever, but when he starts, he won't stop until he's finished—sometimes way into the night and early morning.

Soler wakes up mid-morning but starts to paint after lunch and continues after dinner. He follows a schedule and stops when he is tired so he can always look at the canvas, or in this case, Guyito, with fresh eyes.

He explains his vision for Guyito: "We were given a theme. But you see, I work in a series—leaves, roots, trees, stones, waterfalls."

And uh, carabaos?

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TV GUIDE

Sunday, October 16, 2005

ALL NEW SEASON THE APPRENTICE MONDAY 10PM

SEE IT FIRST ON ABC

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM
NBN				Nat'l Basketball League				UN Summit-PGMA		Tinig ng Bayan (Live)
ABS-CBN2	A.S.A.P Fanatics		Stained Glass		The Buzz				Goin' Bulilit	
ABC5	Ringside			PBA						
GMA7	Gigsters	Love To Love			S-Files				Mahiwagang Baul	
RPN9		Golf Power	Auto Extreme	Fistorama		JAG		JAG		NavyNcis
IBC13		EZ Shop		EZ Shop	Taxman	Home Shopping Network				
SBN21		New Life TV Shopping		Buhay Pinoy		Shepherd's Voice		EZ Shop		
Studio 23								Nainip: The Hidden Files	Pinoy Big Brother	Y Speak
MTV Philippines	Mush		Laguna Beach	MTV Cribs	Wade Robson Project	Viva La Bam	Pimp My Ride	Get Hitched	MTV Screen	The 70's House
MYX		Pinoy MYX Countdown				Take 5	MYX Bandarilo	MYX News	Star MYX	MYXLOG
CNN	International Correspondents	World News	The Daily Show John Stewart Global Edition	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	World News	Talk Asia	World News
ESPN Solar Sports		TV Shopping		Asian Badminton Championships		NBA Pre Season Game				
Sports Plus	Administaff Small Business Classic Day 2				Golf Hawaii 2004	Slipstream		Celebrity Poker Tournament		
Cinemax	Wheelmen			Dead Silence			Forever Young (5.45 PM)			
Hallmark Channel	The Nanny	Gone But Not Forgotten				Gone But Not Forgotten				
Disney Channel	Recess	Totally Spies	Lizzie Mcguire	Brandy & Mr. Whiskers	Lilo & Stitch	Totally Spies	Mr. Bean	Phil Of The Future	Suite Life Of Zack And Cody	That's So Raven
Discovery Channel		Mostly True Stories		American Chopper		IBM Innovation Hour		Mythbusters		Hour Asia
National Geographic		No Borders			Rediscovering The Map	Crocodile Chronicle	Chimp Diaries	Innovation		Megastos
Cartoon Network		Police Academy	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	The Road Runner Show	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	Winx Club	The Life & Times Of Juniper Lee	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	Samurai Jack
Nickelodeon	Sabrina The Teenage Witch	Unfabulous	Naturally Sadie	Romeo	Drake & Josh	Chalkzone	Avatar: The Last Airbender	Danny Phantom	My Life As A Teenage Robot	1,2,3
Lifestyle Network	Date With Design	Ground Rules	Outer Spaces	Your Private Island	Breathing Room	Back To Basics	Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Ciao America With Mario	Wolfgang's Master Class
Star World		The Apprentice		Tru Calling		Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	One Tree Hill		The Simpsons
AXN		Jakob The Liar					30 Seconds To Fame	AXN Shakedown		Ultimate Guinness World Records
Jack TV		Reno 911	Blue Collar TV	X-Play	Sweat	Street Smart	The Sib Show	Hip Hop Nation	Ride With Funk Master Flex	WWE Afterburn
ETC	Will & Grace	Saturday Night Live		Veronica Mars		American Dreams		One Tree Hill		Queer Eye For The Straight Guy
HBO				The Mambo Kings			Blue Crush (5.45 PM)			
Star Movies	The Ticket	Rocky V			U-Turn (4:45 PM)					The Parent Trap (6.50 PM)
Cinema One				Colour Everywhere				My First Romance		
EWTN	Defending Life	Angelus (3.15 PM)	EWTN Bookmark	Adventures In Odyssey	Faith Factory D	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Global Showcase		Octavia Dies	Fr. John Corapi

Channel	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
NBN		Battle Royale		The Sports List	Go For Gold		Business & Leisure		Unlimited Diving
ABS-CBN2	Search For A Star In A Million	Rated K		TV Patrol World	Pinoy Big Brother	Sunday Family Cinema			
ABC5				Hollywood Dream		Maxmedia Specials			Islamusik
GMA7		Met & Joey		At Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office	
RPN9		Without A Trace		Celebrity Poker Showdown				Sure Hits	The Working President
IBC13						Iyo Ang Katarungan	ELSHADDAI		
SBN21				Orasyong Katolikanan		Gabay At Aksyon		SBN Sing Along	
Studio 23				Will & Grace	F	Digital Tour (10.15PM)		Buffy The Vampire Slayer	Chefs On The Go
MTV Philippines						Whatever Things	MTV Hits	Essential VH1	
MYX				MYX Hit Chart				MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX
CNN				World News	World Sport	Global Challenges	CNN Business Traveller	Talk Asia	Next @ CNN
ESPN Solar Sports				GWS	Sunday Slugfest Boggs vs Morse				
Sports Plus				Nopi Tunervision	BD Ukraine	Ultimate Fighting Championship			
Cinemax				Against The Ropes				Ordinary Decent Criminal	
Hallmark Channel				The Freediver			Riding The Bus With My Sister		
Disney Channel				Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	Phil Of The Future	Even Stevens	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Discovery Channel				Pompeii-The Last Day		FBI Files		Power Zone	
National Geographic				Savage Earth Week		No Borders: Voices From Heaven Monsoon Railway Bus 174 Shooting Under Fire			
Cartoon Network				Cartoon Cartoon Show	Crush Gear Nitro	Power Rangers Ninja Storm	Justice League	Harvey Birdman (11.15PM)	Mission Hill
Nickelodeon			Romeo	Girls In Love	The Amanda Show	My Dad The Rock Star	Four Eyes	The Wild Thornberrys	Are You Afraid of the Dark?
Lifestyle Network				50 Most Wicked Women Of Primetime				Clean House	
Star World				Parkinson		Nighty Night/ World's Scariest Ghosts/ Haunted Houses Road Trip: The Robinsons/ Nighty Night Season 2	Human Remains	The Simpsons	Oprah Prime Time
AXN						CSI: NY (Season 1)		CSI: Miami (Season 3)	
Jack TV						South Park	The Man Show	Insomniac W/ Dave Attell	Bad Taste Geeks
ETC				Rated Ohl	The Insider Weekend	Meet My Folks	The Frighteners (10.20PM)	ET Weekend	
HBO									
Star Movies				Cold Mountain					America's Sweethearts
Cinema One						Pa-Siyam			
EWTN						The World Over	Life Is Worth Living	Mother Angelica Live Classics	

ALL NEW SERIES THE APPRENTICE Martha Stewart TUESDAY 10PM

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Ang inyong tagapaghatid ng ulat-pangmulat

alas-10 ng gabi na! Tuwing Huwebes

Ating kabalitaan

Cheri Mercado

Dito lang sa ABC

INQ INQ TV TV

Foodies

by Jillian Therese A. Nuñez

The Essence of Italian with a Filipino Twist

and Passion Cuisine

The man behind the winning Italian dishes at Amici di Don Bosco, Chef Giorgio Bucciarelli, has himself become a Manila staple

RAFFY LERMA

FILIPINOS love to cook Italian food. They either cook it in the traditional Italian way, such as the incredibly rich Lasagna Bolognese with the meat sauce and the béchamel, or they give the dishes a Filipino twist, like the children's birthday party favorite, the sticky, sweet, hotdog-laced spaghetti.

So when one hears about Amici di Don Bosco's delectable spread, one can only assume that it's a testament to how much Filipinos have embraced Italian cuisine. But the man behind Amici di Don Bosco's famed fare is also now spreading the skill.

Chef Giorgio Bucciarelli, at first sight, looks like he was born to toss pizza into the air, a rotund man with dark, heavy-lidded eyes who gestures with both hands as he speaks animatedly about the essentials of cooking the Italian way. Woven into his instructions are little stories and anecdotes about his experiences in cooking, both in the Philippines and while growing up in Italy. He is a very friendly and accommodating person, and he makes the most ordinary things like brick ovens and kitchen utensils seem like the most interesting things. He becomes serious, however, once he starts talking about how there really is nothing to making truly fabulous Italian dishes.

Why is Italian food a perennial favorite? You'd expect Chef Giorgio to answer with a smorgasbord of words, an explanation as tasty as the classic carbonara ("No cream, just egg yolk, and a lot of black pepper"). His answer? "People love Italian food because it is simple. It is not complicated.

"Simple, because it is a basic recipe," he continues in English with an Italian accent. "You know, before it was the food of the poor, now it's the food of the rich. Pasta and pizza were not considered food of the rich."

Available and affordable

Chef Giorgio, as folks at Amici di Don Bosco call him, goes on to explain that pasta and pizza were considered "food of the poor" because the raw materials for both were easily available and affordable. Pasta dough, for one thing, is made up of flour, eggs, water, and salt. And a good pasta dish could consist of just a basic tomato sauce and a sprinkling of parmiggiano reggiano.

Chef Giorgio seems Italian to the bone, but he was not actually born in Italy. During World War II, his family moved to the other side of the Adriatic Sea, the Republic of Croatia. His family eventually moved back to Italy and settled in the city of Milan, where Chef Giorgio grew up. It was also in Milan that he found his cooking roots and his identity.

"My mother taught me, my grandmother," narrates the 50-year-old chef. "Cooking became natural to me because they taught me when I was young, very young age—eight years old."

Intuition is also a big part of Chef Giorgio's Italian cooking, what with his steady advice to his students: "No measurements." This intuition also comes in handy at Amici di Don Bosco, where he is the consultant chef and oversees the entire canteen, as well as teaching the cooking classes which they offer. Furthermore, this penchant for food has made Amici di Don Bosco a very popular place, especially for its pizza and pasta dishes. Some of the crowd favorites are the Linguini Aragosta (linguini noodles with lobster) and the Quattro Formaggio (four-cheese pizza).

Making enough

Of course, the restaurant was not put up solely to introduce Filipinos to authentic Italian cuisine. As it is housed at the Don Bosco Technical Institute, one of its main objectives is to help the out-of-school youth, as helping less fortunate children was St. John Bosco's mission and vision. Although the restau-

To page 7

Noteworthy

Diary of a Dog Model

Or, how animals took to the runway for the Philippine Animal Welfare Society's benefit fashion show for abused and abandoned creatures

PHOTOGRAPHS BY RAFFY LERMA

MY name is Banana, and I'm a 1 ½-year-old female yellow Labrador retriever. I'm fortunate in that I have a loving human Mommy who takes good care of me—not because she dresses me in Bulgari (heaven forbid), but because she gives me her time, feeds me healthy food, takes me to the vet, and cleans up after me like a responsible dog owner.

Unfortunately, I know for a fact that not all of us dogs are that lucky, especially the *askals* among us. I'd understand if dog-eating was a cultural thing, but when Mommy hears about depraved barangay captains or stupid drunks who skin dogs alive for *pulutan*, it drives her up the wall. This, in spite of the Philippines' Animal Welfare Act, which makes cruelty to animals a crime. It was a human named Mahatma Gandhi who said that a civilization will be judged by the way it treats its animals, so I'm quite worried about Mommy and her countrymen, really.

That's why, when I was invited to model for Furry Tales, the animal fashion show put together by the Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) last October 8 at the SM Megamall, Mommy didn't hesitate, and I was excited at the idea of meeting other dogs. I also felt great that the show would benefit PAWS' Animal Rehabilitation Center (PARC) in Quezon City, where rescued abused and abandoned animals can stay before they find new homes and people to adopt them. Well, maybe I had to endure a week of fittings for my four outfits and everybody found out about my 33-inch bustline, but the outfits made by Pernille Harboe, a nice lady who makes dog clothes and wheelchairs for handicapped animals, were terribly cute. (More on Pernille in a future issue, Mommy says.) Sponsors like Globe, Masterfoods-Pedigree and Penshoppe donated in cash and kind to make the show a success, and celebrities even put on costumes and modeled for absolutely free (oooh, Drew Arellano was so cute as Wolverine, and Mara Lopez did a great job of leading me onto the stage for our Incredibles portion). I dare say I looked gorgeous (Mommy snuck in a bath between the 7 a.m. rehearsals and the 3:30 p.m. call time for the afternoon show), but so did the other dogs. My boyfriend Una, a black Labrador, had a cute cap for the CSI segment, along with that handsome Doberman, Diesel. I made friends with a Beagle named Joni, whose outfit made her look like a gift. This adorable Pug even did a dance in a baker's outfit, and those tiny Chihuahuas and Pomeranians were divine (which is a lot to say for small dogs, he-he). All in all, we were 30 dogs, three cats, two rabbits, a cockatoo and an orangutan.

This is only the second Furry Tales, and it was a bigger and more fab one, people agreed. It was exhausting to run back and forth backstage and put on those heavy hats, but I'd do it again in a bark, just to help other dogs. And the best part? It was a clean and organized affair—all our people cleaned up after us!

For inquiries on donations to the PAWS Animal Rehabilitation Center (PARC), call tel. no. 475-1688

The author being walked by Mara Lopez

Diesel the Doberman meets Darth Vader

This Week

Art

Boston Gallery (72 Boston corner Lantana Sts., Cubao, QC) presents three simultaneous solo exhibits until Oct. 19. On view at the Lower Gallery is **September Green**, an exhibit of recent landscapes by Jim Orencio. In contrast is Erwin Leaño's **Landscapes** at the Upper Gallery. At the Alcove is Willie Espino's first series of works using an expressionist palette. For details, call 722-9205.

Pinto Art Gallery presents three simultaneous exhibits by **Alfredo Juan Aquilizan, Vinita Karim and Cris Villanueva** until Oct. 22 at 1 Sierra Madre St., Grand Heights, Antipolo City. Aquilizan presents his recent works in mixed media in "Still Life" at Gallery 1. Karim mounts her recent abstract paintings at Gallery 2 and Gallery Shop. Villanueva features his acrylic paintings in "Domestic Camouflage" at the House. For details, call telefax 697-1015.

Crisis in Geometry is a Crisis of the Signified, recent paintings by Ronald Achacoso at the Mag:net Gallery ABS, The Loop, ELJ Comm Center, ABS-CBN Compound until Oct. 22. For details, call 410-0995.

Music

Listen to young upcoming German jazz singer **Esther Kaiser** as she makes her debut in Manila in celebration of German Month. Kaiser will have two performances in Manila: a mini-concert to be held at The Podium this Sunday, Oct. 16, and a concert at the Carlos P. Romulo Auditorium at the RCBC Plaza, Makati on Oct 17. Both start at 7 p.m. Admission is free. She will be performing songs from her debut album, "Jazz Poems" and the forthcoming follow-up "The Moment We Met," due to be released in early 2006.

The Manila Chamber Orchestra Foundation will present the fourth concert of its annual MCO Arts Festival featuring the **Kasilag Guitar Quartet** on Oct. 22, 6 p.m. at Equitable PCI Bank's Francisco Santiago Hall, Makati Avenue corner H.V. dela Costa Street, Makati City. Concert repertoire will include the works of National Artists Lucresia Kasilag and Col. Antonino Buenaventura. For tickets, call 878-4359 or 840-7000 local 2630.

Atbp

Women's Feature Service Philippines, Inc. is conducting a **Workshop on Basic Photography and Photojournalism** on October 22-23, 2005 at WFS Office: Unit 612 Manila Astral Tower.1330 Taft Ave., corner Padre Faura, Ermita, Manila. Resource person is Ms. Katherine Jack, a multi-exhibited British photographer. Workshop fee is Php 4,000. For details contact Au Rodriguez au_rodriguez@yahoo.com or 0920-3838779.

Find out how nature-based ecotourism can be a viable alternative source of livelihood for people in the **Haribon Monthly forum** to be held on Oct. 20, 5:30 p.m. at the Meralco Minitheater. The forum is free. For inquiries or registrations, contact Lui Hugo at 433-3476 loc. 18 or 920-7430.

Join guide Ivan ManDy as he horses around Binondo streets talking Filipino history, gorging Chinese treats and even checking out the district's period architecture in the **Big Binondo Food Bowl** on Oct. 22 and 29 at 1 p.m. Meet at Binondo Church. Tickets at P650/adult and P350 for full-time students or museum workers with ID. On Oct. 30 at 1:30 p.m., take a leisurely stroll amid the sylvan setting of the patrician district of San Miguel, Manila. Take a peek into the period homes of our country's old aristocracy and the twin gothic wonders of San Sebastian and San Beda Church. This is a donate-any-amount walk. Meet at San Sebastian Church. For details, text 0917-3291622 or check out www.oldmanilawalks.com.

Basic Poetry Writing. A seminar-workshop on classical, haiku and free verse writing to be held on Oct. 22 at the Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo, Quezon City. For details, call 285-2449 or (0916) 3622406.

Corban Learning and Tutorial Center is slating a new series of **Easy English seminars** every Saturday and/or Sunday, starting Oct. 29 and/or 30, from 2 to 5 p.m. This is a comprehensive package of conversation, grammar and writing that runs for 30 hours. Interested parties may call Corban at 842-6665, 809-3050 or 0917-6297718.

Jim Orencio's "Under the Trees I," on view at Boston Gallery

The **Center for Asian Culinary Studies** offers the following **cooking classes**: Twist to Basic Baking (Oct. 17, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.); Homemade Holiday Gifts 2 (Oct. 24, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and Simple Cakes (Oct. 25, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.). Each class is priced from P1,000 to P1,500 per participant. The Center is located at 455 P. Guevarra St., San Juan. For inquiries, call 725-5089.

X-manila

Mandala Spa, Boracay holds **Yoga Holiday Retreats** open to beginners, intermediate and advanced students. The yoga retreat is designed to bring balance to body, mind and spirit by combining meditation, chanting, pranayama, asana and satsang. The retreats will be held on the following dates: Oct. 20 to 23 (Living Yoga with Karen Reina), and Nov. 25 to 27 (Restorative Yoga with Linda Naulty). For details, visit www.mandalaspa.com. For reservations, e-mail reservations@mandalaspa.com or call +63 36 288 5858.

Catch the launch of **Capers in Clay: Recent Works of Ugu Bigyan and Sister Emma Alday** fresh from their respective workshops in Tiaong, Quezon and San Jose, Batangas on Oct. 23, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Galleria Esperanza, Kusina Salud Compound, 285 Bgy. Sta. Cruz "Putol", San Pablo City, Laguna. For inquiries, text 0921-7726985.

St. Louis University Alumni Foundation, Inc.-Baguio City invites alumni and friends to the **1st Louisian Open Golf Tournament** in Baguio City on Oct. 30 and the Alumni Chapter Gathering & University-wide Fellowship in Baguio City on Dec. 10. For inquiries, call 532-1446, 532-1451 or 532-1474 in Manila; (074) 442-6677, (074) 442-3867 or (074) 443-2001 local 204 in Baguio.

Pinoy Nga!

Tax

Soler ...from page 4

Soler smiles and shakes his head. "OK, I wasn't used to working around a theme. So I just decided to paint what I usually paint and see what happens," he says.

This is something the youngest son got from Malang. "My father is more concerned with expression rather than message, so I think that's where I got the character of my paintings," he once said in an interview.

Soler chose to mark Guyito with his stone garden series. He painted Guyito gray—like a carabao—and then scattered boxed images of water splashing against rocks on his back—abstract, of course, and in his favorite colors of brown, black and ochre. Solid bands of red add life to the earth colors and a strip of stylized white water runs from Guyito's back and around the stomach like it was holding together an oblique theory.

Could this be a reflection of the state of the environment?

"That's too profound," Soler says. "It's just another way of rendering my stone garden series."

Embracing nature

In the early '80s, Soler was painting fallen leaves, which went on for five years before his interest turned to the roots of trees. This lasted for another five years, after which he became fascinated with rainforests—real and imagined. Lately it's been stone gardens and waterfalls.

He gets his ideas when he goes out of town, he says. He has been to Palawan, Davao and Cebu and, when confronted by nature, embraces it like a long-lost relative.

Does he bring easel, canvas and paint like Amorsolo did when he worked on his famous rustic scenes?

"Heavens, no. I take a picture." Soler says. He owns a Nikon D-70, a digital camera. It takes really sharp pictures which he stores in his computer and views at will or prints them out when he's ready to paint.

Last summer, Soler and family (Malang, Mona and the kids Luis, 20, Carina, 17 and Isabel 15) were in New York. "We were walking in Central Park and I saw this really beautiful lake. I saw lots of images I wanted to use for my next exhibit," he says.

Of course, he took pictures with his mind's eye, and yes, he brought along his Nikon.

As a student, he used to frequent the Sunken Garden in UP Diliman—to sketch and to paint. Nowadays, he goes to the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife in Quezon City which is near his home.

"It's hard to find green spaces in the city. We're planning a family outing to the La Mesa Dam Eco Park and perhaps Caliraya Lake in Laguna," he muses.

Serendipitously, Soler found the subject for his next series—lakes and their reflections.

Teaching ...from page 6

rant does not reap very big profits, it makes sure it makes enough money for the children. How apt it is then that the restaurant is called "Amici di Don Bosco," which translates into "friends of Don Bosco."

Chef Giorgio is spreading the love even more through Amici di Don Bosco's School of Advanced Cooking. Aside from running the kitchen at Amici di Don Bosco, he has taken it upon himself to make sure that Filipinos learn to cook Italian the right way, and for the right reasons.

"You don't need to be complicated to be a good chef. You need to be simple," Chef Giorgio says once again. "Good quality is, of course, important. If you use good quality tomatoes and good quality pasta, then your dish is good. With carbonara, for example, if the egg yolk you use is good, then your pasta is good."

Those words echo Chef Giorgio's own devotion to the craft and his passion for the Filipino. He has been based here in the Philippines for many years. "My first time here was in 1979, for other reasons," Chef Giorgio explains, "and again in 1994, for business purposes." It was in 1994 that he first thought of putting up a restaurant, although he first started teaching pizza-making at the Heny Sison School of Cake Decorating & Baking. And, of course, Chef also met his wife here in the Philippines. "We met in a restaurant, and I fell in love with her when I knew that she loved pasta."

The Filipinos' love for sour foods is something the Italians share, as well as the penchant for saucy foods. Chef Giorgio felt that the cooking school would be a good venture because of those similarities. He still won't touch *dinuguan*, however, or anything with squid ink, though it is ironic that they serve squid ink pasta in the restaurant. Whenever they make it, he promptly leaves the room. What do you know, even chefs can dislike food!

Still, no matter what food he likes or dislikes, he still stresses the importance of "Basic concept, don't forget," Chef Giorgio says in parting. It is all about simplicity, the right ingredients, and your very own intuition. Easy, simple, basic. Italian-style.

Amici di Don Bosco is located at Antonio Arnaiz ave. corner Chino Roces ave., Makati City. For inquiries, call tel. no. 893-8915. Restaurant hours are from 11 am to 9 pm, Monday to Saturday

Love Notes

What Are We Now?

All was well, until one day, I learned that he and his girl had patched things up. I was devastated, Joe. I didn't know what I was supposed to do

Dear Joe,

I'm a 23-year-old working girl. My dilemma started December of last year. One of my officemates let his feelings be known. I can't deny it, Joe, I liked him too. The problem is, he's committed. When I talked to him about it, he told me that he and his girlfriend weren't talking anymore. I even asked him to patch things up with her because I didn't want to be the reason for their breakup. He told me not to worry because I wasn't the reason. Things started from there, though I still kept a little distance from him when our officemates were around because they all knew that he had a girlfriend. It's hard not to fall for him, because he's so sweet, malambing, and loves to make me laugh—all the things that I like in a guy. He even told me that he loves me.

All was well, until one day, I learned that he and his girl had patched things up. I was devastated, Joe. I didn't know what I was supposed to do. He's my first love. I cried so hard when I learned about it. When he learned that I already knew, he did everything he could to explain his side. Since then, even hearing his voice pains me. But I missed him during that time, so I decided to talk to him once and for all, to fix things between us. When I saw him, it was so painful I didn't even speak. He asked me, "So what are we now?" We parted ways.

Things took a different turn when our officemates planned an out-of-town trip. I asked him to come, and he did. It was really hard for me to ignore him, because our friends would get suspicious. But it also hurts to talk to him because I admit, I still love him. That night, he wanted to talk about what happened. We never had the chance to talk, because something happened between us.

When we got back to Manila, he became cold. I asked him if he still loves me. He said yes, but I don't feel it.

I still love the guy so much. But then, thinking of his girlfriend makes me feel so guilty. But I don't want to lose him. He has become my life. I'm so confused. I want to move on. But I don't want to leave him.

Angel

Dear Angel,

It seems that you have gotten what you wanted, in a different way. I think what took place on that out-of-town trip was bound to happen. You probably made it very easy for him to be intimate with you, and he simply found your invitation quite difficult to resist that night.

I know that intimate interlude meant a lot to you, but it may not have meant as much to him. He probably just took advantage of your vulnerability and openness. The fact that he was cold when you went back to Manila just shows that what happened that night was something that he probably didn't want to happen in the first place. He could be troubled with guilt just as much as you are.

Angel, I know you love this man, but, if there is no sign that he feels the same way for you, then I don't see any reason why you have to pursue your feelings for him. You can have him physically but if his hearts belongs to someone else, then no amount of closeness can ever truly bring him to you.

Angel, the reason why we refuse to let go of a person we love is because we are afraid to be alone. But if that person doesn't love us, then being with him or her doesn't make any difference. We would have someone beside us, but still be alone. The real essence of a relationship lies in the commitment of two people, and not just one. It lies in the basic foundation of love that is shared by two and not just felt by one. Angel, to put it bluntly, you simply cannot be happy with a man who loves someone else. Do not allow yourself to be a prisoner of your own desires. Let us always remember that it is in giving and not in taking that we experience the real meaning of love. It is in loving and not in wanting to be loved in return that we find real happiness.

Love Notes is heard every Friday at 10:15 a.m. with replays at 7 p.m. on WAVE 89.1 FM. Get your daily love advice from Joe d' Mango via SMS by texting "lovenotes" to 2968

Final Showdown of Motorola

Motorola will finally bare its favorite rock icon.

Rock stars collide this Friday (Oct 21) at Halo, Makati as seven of the country's phenomenal acts set to blaze the stage with their powerful performances for an ultimate showdown.

Motorola brings anew Sandwich' Raimund Marasigan, Imago's Aia De Leon, Chico Sci's Miggy Chavez, Spongecola's Yael Yuson, Sugarfree's Ebe Dancel, Greyhounds' Reg Rubio and Urbandub's Gabby Alipe to ROCK MO 'TO's explosive culminating event, the first-time they will bat head-to-head for the elusive spot.

This showdown caps off a month-long run of ROCK MO'TO events featuring each nominated ROCK MO 'TO local icon's band in tandem with some of the brightest, up-and-coming artists.

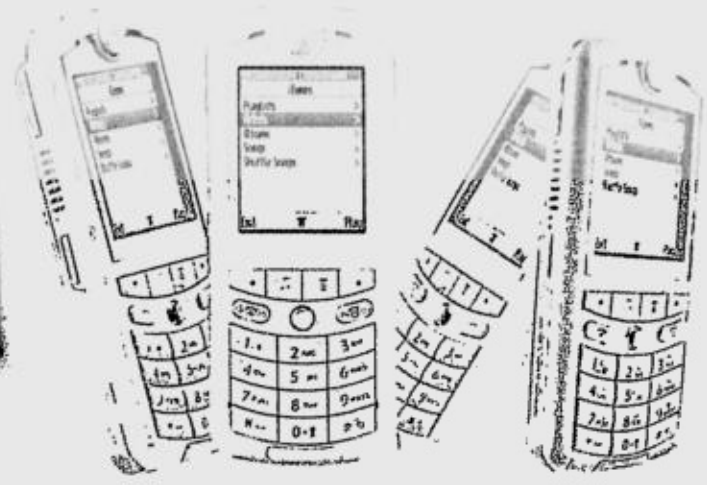
Motorola takes mobile lifestyle to the next level, as it pulls no stop in bringing its loyal patrons right at the heart and center of music's through a massive series of events like these.

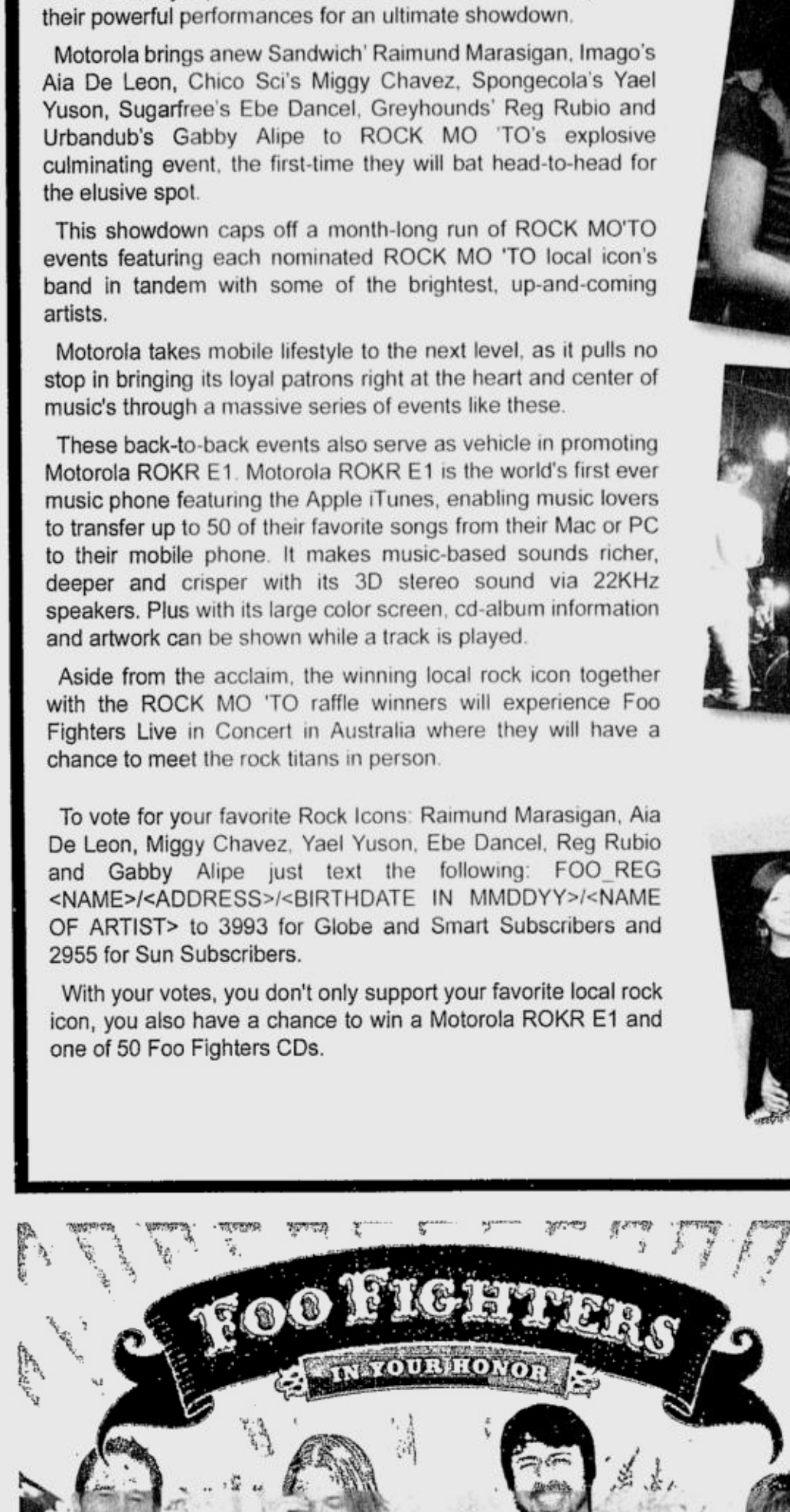
These back-to-back events also serve as vehicle in promoting Motorola ROKR E1. Motorola ROKR E1 is the world's first ever music phone featuring the Apple iTunes, enabling music lovers to transfer up to 50 of their favorite songs from their Mac or PC to their mobile phone. It makes music-based sounds richer, deeper and crisper with its 3D stereo sound via 22KHz speakers. Plus with its large color screen, cd-album information and artwork can be shown while a track is played.

Aside from the acclaim, the winning local rock icon together with the ROCK MO 'TO raffle winners will experience Foo Fighters Live in Concert in Australia where they will have a chance to meet the rock titans in person.

To vote for your favorite Rock Icons: Raimund Marasigan, Aia De Leon, Miggy Chavez, Yael Yuson, Ebe Dancel, Reg Rubio and Gabby Alipe just text the following: FOO_REG <NAME>/<ADDRESS>/<BIRTHDATE IN MMDDYY>/<NAME OF ARTIST> to 3993 for Globe and Smart Subscribers and 2955 for Sun Subscribers.

With your votes, you don't only support your favorite local rock icon, you also have a chance to win a Motorola ROKR E1 and one of 50 Foo Fighters CDs.





MOTOROLA

Buy a MOTOMUSIC phone between September 15 - October 30, 2005 and get a chance to win the following:

- *A trip to Australia to watch the Foo Fighters LIVE!*
- *One of 4 Motorola phones*
- *One of 500 Foo Fighters CDs*

PLUS! FREE mobile Foo Fighters wallpaper between September 15-30, 2005

Just text to 3993 (Globe/Smart) or 2955 (Sun):

FOO REG <NAME>/<ADDRESS>/<BIRTHDATE MMDDYY>/<IMEI NUMBER>

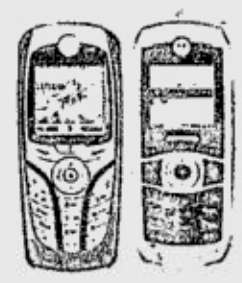
See flyers for more details. Per DTI-NCR Permit 5337 series of 2005

ROKR E1
- Apple iTunes with dedicated music key
- 3D Stereo Surround Sound
- 256MB Transflash® memory card
- Integrated VGA Camera
- Bluetooth® Wireless Technology.

E680i
- Bluetooth® music from phone to stereo headset effortlessly
- Record up to 2 hours of video
- MP3 Player, FM Radio, RealPlayer™
- Support SD memory card up to 2GB
- Integrated VGA camera with 8X zoom

E398 Hijacked by MTV
- Experience 3D surround sound
- Integrated MP3 player
- VGA digital camera with 4X zoom
- Supports TransFlash® memory card

C650/ C651
- MMS & GPRS capable
- Java & Wap Ready
- MP3 Ringtones
- Built-in Camera w/ 4x zoom
- 65k colors
- Motomixer™



C380/ C381
- MMS & GPRS capable
- Java & Wap Ready
- MP3 Ringtones
- 65k colors
- Motomixer™

MOTOALERT

Watch all bands at the final ROCKMO'TO gig at the Halo Bar on October 21, 2005 and you can win a brand new Motorola ROKR E1!

Vote for your local rock icon!

Simply text the following to 3993 (for Globe and Smart Subscribers) or 2955 (for Sun Subscribers) and you may also get a chance to win the following:
- *Motorola ROKR E1*
- *One of 50 Foo Fighters CDs*

FOO REG <NAME>/<ADDRESS>/<BIRTHDATE MMDDYY>/<FAVORITE ARTIST>
Ex. FOO REG JOHN GARCIA/3 MANGO ST. FRUIT VILLAGE, RIZAL /030380/RAIMUND

The more you vote, the higher your chances of winning! Follow the groups at http://hellomoto.com/ph

Promo Period for the voting contest is from September 15 -October 14, 2005. See flyers for more details.

SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT

EXTENDED!!!

Raffle Promo until November 6, 2005
and Voting Contest until October 20, 2005
(Grand Raffle draw date will be moved to November 7, 2005)

Adi Telecom, Alpha Delta, Apple Ann Shop, Audiocart, Abenson, Bed International, Cocomaster / Best Mobile , Country Shoppe, Ecg Telecom, Electo World, G Shack, G Telecom, Galleon Enterprises, GC Masangkay, Globe Telecom, Globotel, Graphic All In Store / Oro Graphics, Hello Telecoms, Herrera Brothers, Junrex, Jv Shop N Shop, Mega Cellular, Memo Express, Mike'S Department Store, Mobile Experts, Novacell, Pos Marketing, Phones N Gadgets, Power Telecoms, Rc Goldline, Semicon, Siena Telecom, Smart, Sun Cellular, Topwin, Wellcom, Wiltelcom, Wow Mobile

■ ENTERTAINMENT / A2-1

'Tuli' director says his baby was disemboweled

■ ACROSS / A17

Girl's device converts rice husk into fuel

■ WORLD / A8

Major economies call for stable oil prices

■ LIFESTYLE / D2

Celebrating innocence, friendship

Gov't's high phone bill traced to 'telebabad'

"TELEBABAD" AND INternet use by officials and employees are jacking up government communication expenses, according to Palawan Rep. Abraham Mitra. *Telebabad* is the Tagalog term for excesGOVERNMENT'S/ A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Hunt for JI camps tops agenda of RP-Australia talks

By Volt Contreras

THE HUNT FOR TRAINING CAMPS OF JEmaah Islamiyah terrorists in Mindanao is expected to dominate this week's talks in Manila between Philippine officials and visiting Australian Defense Minister Robert Hill.

"We are obviously concerned about reHUNT/ A20

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Monday, October 17, 2005 ★★ 6 sections / Vol. 20 / No. 311 P18

website: www.inq7.net

DEFENDING THE CAPITAL
Philippine Coast Guard men sharpen their skills during Sunday's antiterrorist drill on Manila Bay. This followed warnings from government officials that members of the Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist group may have slipped into the country to carry out suicide bombings.

ERIK ARAZAS

GMA-Church fight looms

Bishop Tobias: CPR policy jelling bishops together

By Christian V. Esguerra and Christine O. Avendaño

A BISHOP DRENCHED WITH A WATER CANNON yesterday said the police dispersal of a religious procession was likely to unify prelates in what he described as a looming battle between the Holy Spirit and President Macapagal-Arroyo.

But Malacañang remained adamant it had nothing to apologize for in Friday's dispersal near Mendiola when a fire truck sprayed jets of water on protesters, including former Vice President Teofisto Guingona, Sen. Jamby Madrigal, Rep. Satur Ocampo, bishops and priests. No serious injuries were reported.

The protesters threatened to bring the case to the attention of the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, which recently brought into its fold Libya, regarded by critics as one of the world's repressive regimes.

"It is high time we put sense and order in our society," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye. "You break the law, you are taken in to account for it," he said, pointing out this applied to all—"the rich and the poor, the powerless and the powerful."

Bishop Antonio Tobias of Novaliches, one of the three prelates who joined what organizers billed as a prayer rally, said the government's calibrated preemptive response policy was just "jelling the bishops together."

"A little more of that and this thing will explode," said Tobias. "This is a battle of the Holy Spirit and if you fight it, you can never win even if you are Malacañang," Tobias said.

GMA-CHURCH/ A20

Anti-GMA art warns of bigger street rallies

By DJ Yap

THEIR BODY LANGUAGE SAID no to martial law—literally.

Showing that protesters had not run out of ideas, militants yesterday used their bodies as canvases to send a message that demonstrations were here to stay despite police truncheons and water cannons.

They painted slogans on their bodies expressing outrage at the government's clampdown on dissenters, saying it was a creeping sign of martial rule.

The two-hour body-painting protest was conducted before the Oblation statue at the University of the Philippines by the left-wing Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas and Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas.

"This is for protest's sake and for art's sake, too," said KMP national chair Fernando Hicap.

"This time we will use our warm bodies to deliver a strong message against President Macapagal-Arroyo ... to challenge her military and police fortress in Malacañang," Hicap said.

He added that the body-painting session signaled bolder and more daring anti-Arroyo rallies in Metro Manila and other protest centers nationwide.

Yellow, blue and green paint adorned the face and torso of Melecio Cañete with the mesANTI-GMA/ A22

Politicians turn to Rizal for guidance

By Fe Zamora

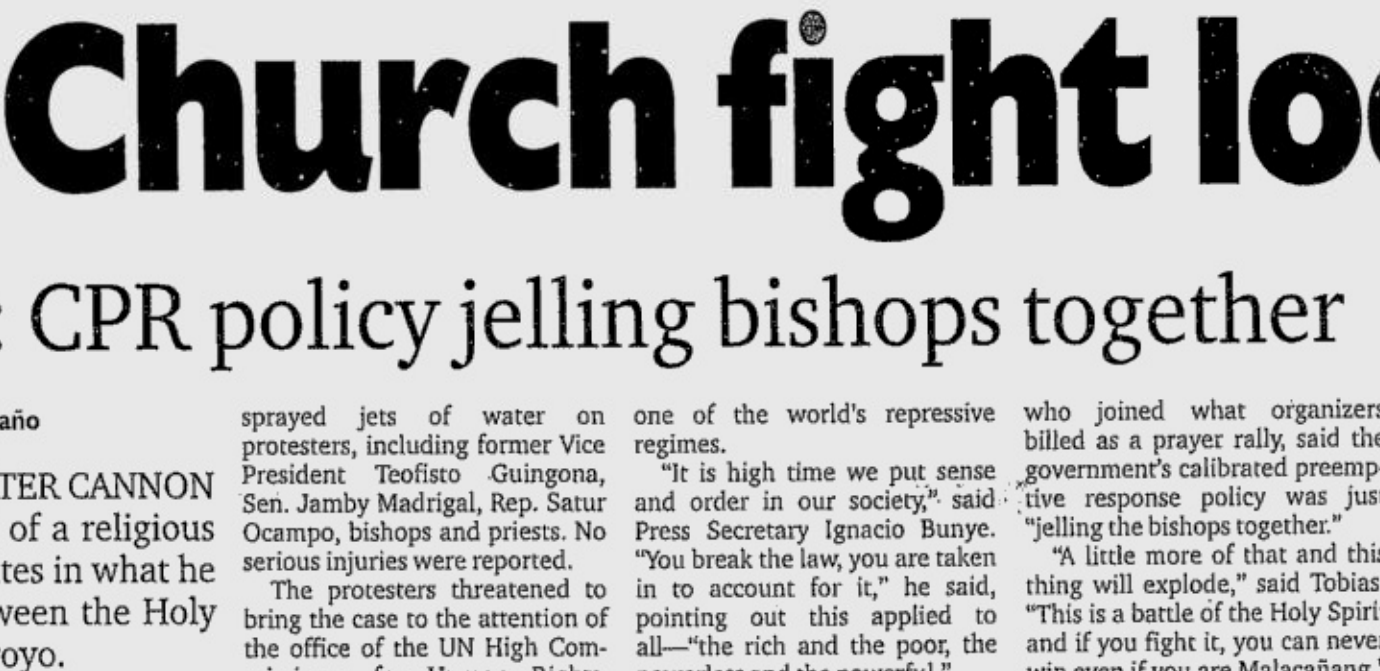
IF JOSE RIZAL WERE ALIVE TODAY, WHAT would he say—and do—about the political turmoil confronting the country?

More than a century after Rizal's martyrdom, former Senate President Jovito Salonga spoke of the country's need for him and of his relevance to the present times.

His voice trembling, Salonga pleaded for help from the Filipino martyr in a poem he read about Rizal written by the late Filipino writer Rafael Zulueta de Costa titled "Katulad ng Mulawen (Like the Molave)."

"Huwag muna, Rizal, huwag muna.
Huwag ka munang mahimbing.
Libo pang ilog ang dapat tawirin,
Libo pang bundok ang dapat akyatin.

POLITICIANS/ A21



PRAYERS FOR JANE
A Buddhist monk, Dante Jimenez (center) of the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption and overseas Filipino workers say a prayer in memory of Jane Parangan Lapuebla, a Filipino domestic helper allegedly murdered in Singapore by a compatriot. A small memorial ceremony was held yesterday at the site where the victim's severed head was found on Sept. 9. The accused, Guen Aguilar, is in Singapore's Changi Women's Prison awaiting trial. AP

Biazon seeks probe of big weapons shipment in Luzon

By TJ Burgonio

SINCE MAY, SHIPS FROM ABROAD HAVE been unloading high-powered firearms off the coast of northern Luzon, fueling speculation that the weapons were meant for a civilian group supportive of President Macapagal-Arroyo, Sen. Rodolfo Biazon said yesterday.

The shipments of AK-47, SKS (the Carbine version of the AK-47), Armalite and M-14 rifles were picked up by motorboats and brought to shore, Biazon said, citing his own sources.

"The first shipment arrived in May this year. The place [of landing] is northern Luzon," he said in a phone interview.

But he declined to give specifics like the ships' port of origin and the consignee.

The senator, however, did not rule out the possibility that the landing of arms had to do

BIAZON/ A21

Sex worker joins campaign vs prostitution

By DJ Yap

LYDIA (NOT HER REAL NAME) WAS raped by someone in her family, forced to work as a prostitute, and had three children by different men she never knew.

She, however, refuses to be called a victim. She has risen above the scourge of trafficking and prostitution. Lydia is a survivor.

Eyes shining and voice breaking, she told her story at a forum at the University of the Philippines on Friday.

"It's difficult for women like me," she said with courage and grace. "There's discrimination every step of the way. Sometimes, I feel I am no longer clean."

Like many other victims of trafficking and prostitution, Lydia has learned to put on a brave front before a disapproving society.

Raised in a broken family in Bicol, Lydia learned early in life that women were the disadvantaged gender in a male-dominated society.

She was sexually assaulted by a relative. She filed charges against her attacker, but without witnesses, the case did not prosper.

Wanting to escape from her past, she went with a recruiter who promised her a job that paid P1,000 a day as a saleslady in Olongapo. During the "interview," she was drugged and taken to a night club.

With no money and resources, she became a stripper who went "all the way." Before long, she was sleeping with customers for a price. Later, she gave birth to three children "of mixed parentage," meaning, she never actually knew their fathers. To numb her misery, she turned to drugs and alcohol.

But that's all behind her now. An advocacy group helped empower Lydia. Now she is working to eradicate what had once been her only source of living.

SEX WORKER/ A6

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: At 2 p.m. yesterday, the eye of typhoon Nando was at 1,230 km east northeast of Extreme Northern Luzon, with maximum sustained winds of 150 kph near the center and gustiness of up to 185 kph. It was forecast to move northeast at 11 kph. Intertropical Convergence Zone affecting Northern and Central Luzon.

COMPILED BY: CYRIL BONABENTE, PDI RESEARCH/10/17/05 SOURCE: PAGASA

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

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Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy

Goons blocking land reform, say farmers

By Blanche S. Rivera

MUNICIPAL AGRARIAN REFORM OFFICERS (MAROs) of the Department of Agrarian Reform are being harassed by goons hired by wealthy landowners whose lands are still to be covered by the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program, a group working with farmers said.

Task Force Mapalad said in a press briefing that the MAROs and other DAR personnel could not provide farmer beneficiaries with titles to their lands because they themselves were facing security problems.

The TFM, which is pushing for the coverage of landholdings over 100 hectares under land reform, said the DAR could not cover the remaining haciendas, especially in Negros Occidental, because its personnel were afraid of the landowners' "blue guards."

"Yes, some of our people in the field are receiving threats, but that's part of the job. Even I experience these things," Agrarian Reform Secretary Nasser C. Pangandaman said.

Pangandaman, however, said the situation in the field still did not warrant the intervention of the Philippine National Police.

"It's still not necessary although the DAR has an agreement with the PNP. We can ask help from them anytime," he said.

Former Agrarian Reform Secretary Rene Villa had confirmed allegations by farmers' groups that landowners were employing goons to scare off land reform beneficiaries and even the field personnel of DAR.

"Their strategy is to delay it as much as possible ... They hire the smartest lawyers in town. They hire armed men, goons to make it difficult for us," Villa had said.

Negros, Iloilo, Bukidnon and Camarines Sur were identified as the most problematic areas for CARP implementation because of stiff resistance from landowners.

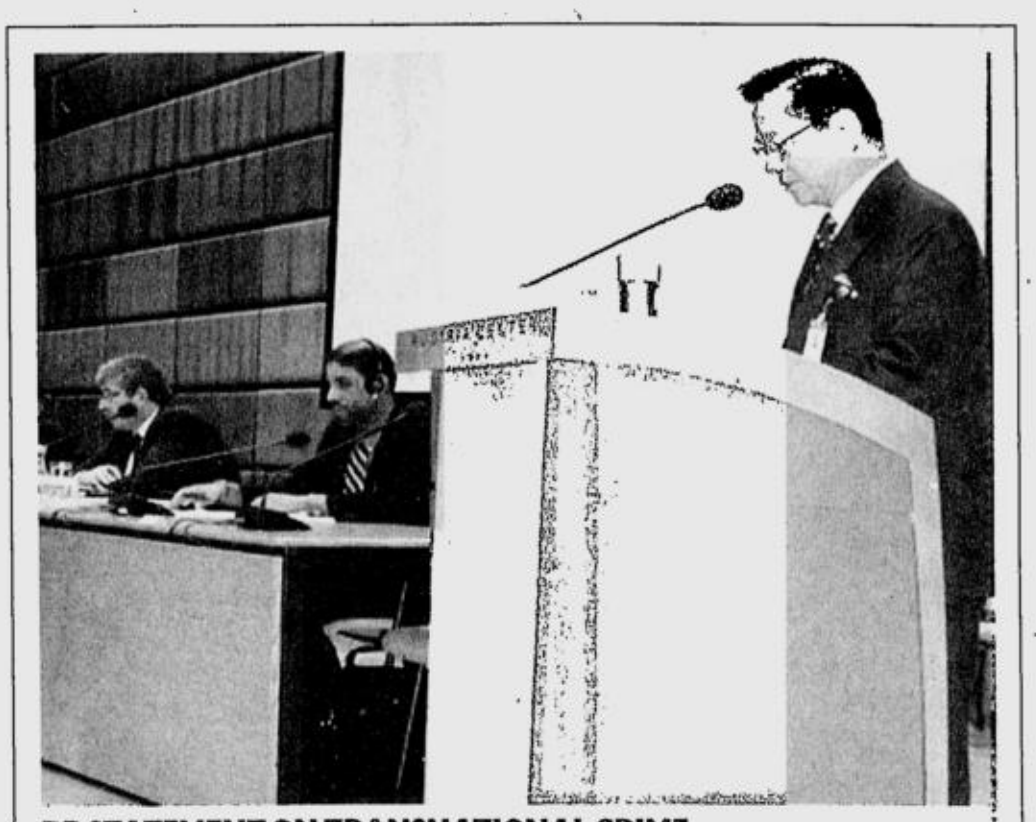
But despite the strong resistance, farmers in Negros and Quezon province are planning to expand the lands they occupy by force this harvest season, or from October to January.

The land takeover is part of a new campaign by the TFM dubbed CARP Express, which seeks to rush the CARP coverage of contentious lands and physically install farmer beneficiaries holding certificates of land ownership award (CLOA) despite resistance from landowners.

CARP Express would focus on 10 provinces. These are Negros Occidental and Oriental, Mindoro Occidental and Oriental, Bukidnon, Cagayan Valley, Davao Oriental, Nueva Ecija, Batangas and Iloilo.

"If we wait for DAR to move, CARP would end and we would still be landless because the DAR did not have the will to help us," TFM spokesperson Edna Sobrecaray said.

Sobrecaray estimated that in Negros Occidental alone, more than 2,000 CLOA holders still could not occupy and cultivate the land awarded to them by the Department of Agrarian Reform because they were being prevented from doing so by the landowners' goons.



RP STATEMENT ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME
National Bureau of Investigation Director Reynaldo G. Wycoco delivers the Philippine Statement during the opening of the second session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crimes (UNCTOC) in Vienna, Austria, on Friday. Wycoco called for the strengthening of technical assistance to help states fill the gaps in their implementation of the UNCTOC.

Luz given choice of jobs

By Christine O. Avendaño

EDUCATION UNDERSECRETARY JUAN Miguel Luz is being offered a choice of positions—assistant secretary in the Department of Labor and Employment or head of the National Wages and Productivity Commission.

Luz is to meet with Labor Secretary Pat Sto. Tomas today to discuss the offer made by the latter.

Sto. Tomas told the INQUIRER that Luz was "open" to discussing her offer.

She said Luz had conveyed to her his willingness to work with her and, in turn, she described him as someone who was "very well regarded and a competent person." *(See related story on Page A5)*

Luz was relieved as education undersecretary by President Macapagal-Arroyo two weeks ago reportedly for refusing to give three checks totaling P5 million to the scholarship fund of a congressman who had voted against the President's impeachment in the House of Representatives.

Luz is also the brother of Makati Business Club and Namfrel leader Guillermo "Bill" Luz, who has been one of the more vocal critics of Ms Arroyo. Bill Luz has had his own problems with the administration which questioned his citizenship.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said President Arroyo had the right to remove Luz anytime she wanted to. She had appointed him to the DepEd.

But since Luz was a career executive service officer, the administration was compelled to find him another government position.

Yesterday, Sto. Tomas said she would ask Luz to be one of her assistant secretaries or to head the NWPC.

She said that since Luz was a CESO 3, his posting should not be lower than a bureau director's.

The labor secretary said all three DOLE undersecretary positions were filled and the only vacancy was for the assistant secretaryship.

Gov't goes after realty tax cheats

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE GOVERNMENT HAS FORMED A task force to investigate corruption and other irregularities in the payment of taxes in real estate transactions.

Beginning next week, the task force will conduct investigations into irregularities in land titling in two pilot areas in the country. The areas were not identified, however.

Presidential Adviser for Revenue Enhancement Narciso Santiago Jr. said the creation of the task force was in line with President Macapagal-Arroyo's policy of eradicating graft and corruption in the government.

Santiago said the government has been losing millions of pesos in much needed revenues every year because of fraud in the payment of taxes from the transfer of titles of real estate properties.

Santiago blamed the revenue loss to collusion among unscrupulous private individuals and corporations, erring employees of the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the registers of deeds out to defraud the government of the right amount in taxes.

The task force was created pursuant to a Memorandum of Agreement among the Department of Justice, the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Commission on Audit. The MOA was signed recently by Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez, Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo and COA Chair Guillermo Carague.

Those who witnessed the signing were President Arroyo, Senior Deputy Executive Secretary Joaquin Lagonera and Santiago.

The task force members have conducted several meetings to formulate programs and strategies for the task force.

Among the powers and functions of the task force are to investigate, gather evidence and file criminal, civil and administrative cases against public officials and employees, as well as private individuals and corporations involved in land title irregularities.

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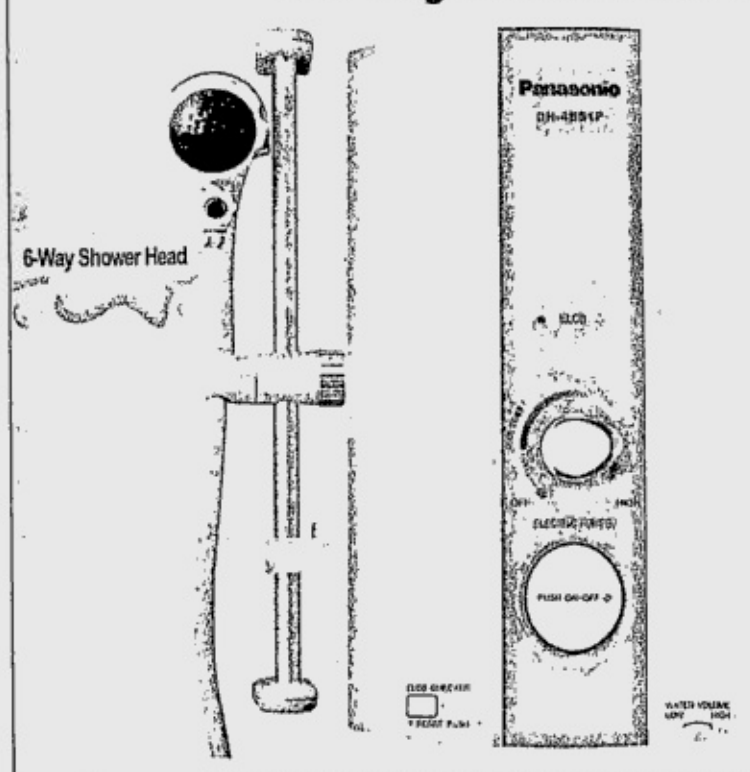

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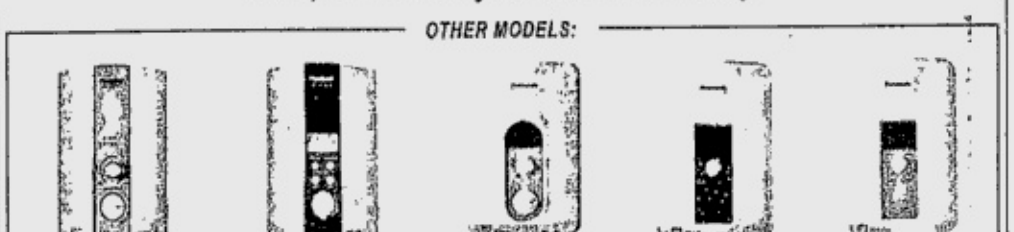

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MNLF hits gov't-MILF deal

COTABATO CITY—FORMER ARMM GOV. Parouk Hussin, who is a ranking official of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), said on Saturday the Arroyo administration had insulted and effectively dumped the group as an ally when the government entered into an agreement with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) allowing the latter to draft the charter of an expanded Muslim region in the southern Philippines.

Hussin, also the MNLF foreign minister, told the INQUIRER by phone the government did not consult the group before it entered into the agreement with the MILF.

Hussin said the agreement was also an insult to the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) which had brokered the 1996 peace agreement between the government and the MNLF.

"It's a dirty game. I don't know how they can play with the Bangsamoro people," Hussin said.

Earlier, MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu said the government and the MILF had "agreed in principle to the drafting of a constitution for an expanded Muslim region, the imposition of its own tax system and the establishment of a legal financial institution.

The present Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao comprises five provinces and one city.

The agreement was seen to boost the chances of success of the peace negotiations between the government and the MILF.

"We are still committed to the agreement we signed with the government... to the peace and development of Mindanao. But if this is the kind of government we have... They disregarded us as well as the Organization of the Islamic Conference. We will ask the OIC to do the same to them," Hussin said.

Hussin said MNLF leaders would be meeting soon to discuss the issue.

"Even before the holding of the elections in the ARMM, we were not consulted. The ARMM is part of the final peace agreement. The government threw [out] not only me but the entire MNLF. I don't think the Bangsamoro people are stupid. I'm sorry. We are determined to bring this matter to the OIC," he said.

The Philippines has been trying to get the OIC to grant it observer status. *Jeoffrey Maitem, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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Petron hikes prices, too

OIL INDUSTRY LEADER PETRON CORP. YESterday raised the prices of its premium gasoline products by 50 centavos a liter and its cooking gas by P1 a kilogram, citing higher crude costs.

Petron increased the prices of its Blaze, XCS and Xtra Unleaded gasoline variants and its Petron Gasul at 12:01 a.m., following similar price adjustments that most of its competitors implemented hours before.

Petron, however, maintained the prices of its regular gasoline, diesel and kerosene due to "social factors."

Fellow refiner Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. was the first to jack up prices of the same products at 6 a.m. Saturday, followed by Caltex Philippines Inc. at noon for gasoline and 6 p.m. for liquefied petroleum gas on the same day.

Unioil Petroleum Philippines Inc. and Eastern Petroleum Corp. also adjusted gasoline prices at 6 p.m. and at midnight Saturday,respectively. Total (Philippines) Corp. likewise increased the prices of its Protec and Infinity variants and TotalGaz LPG yesterday.

Flying V hiked prices of its premium gasoline products at 12:01 a.m. today. Petron said its latest LPG price hike was only implemented to partly recover the increase in LPG international contract prices in October.

Data from the Department of Energy showed that LPG international contract prices soared to an all-time high of $519 per metric ton (MT) this month, rising by almost $80 from the September price of $440.20 per MT.

Petron said it actually had to increase LPG prices by as much as P4.42 a kilogram to recover the sudden surge in international prices, the highest month-to-month increase since 1999.

This latest price hike brings to P3 a kilogram the oil firm's total increase this month.

Since the beginning of the year, gasoline prices have increased 21 times or by a total of P10.85 a liter, while cooking gas prices have gone up 10 times or by a total of P7.15 per kilogram. *Abigail L. Ho*

Prelate urges flock to oppose new lottery

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

DAGUPAN CITY—ARCHBISHOP Oscar Cruz has called on his flock to block the entry of "Loterya ng Bayan" in Pangasinan, saying it would prey on the province's poor like octopuses "squeezing the life out of their little and weak preys."

In a pastoral letter read in all churches in the Archdiocese of Lingayen and Dagupan yesterday, Cruz also urged the provincial board to desist from giving the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office permission to test-run the new lottery in the province.

The archbishop described the new lottery as a trap just like EZ2, another form of gambling operated by the PCSO. "They may be legal forms of gambling but their objective is the same as that of jueteng—to impoverish the gamblers and enrich the gambling operators."

Cruz called on the province's officials to be "creative and original in responding to our difficult times—not through gambling."

"There must be some provincial government officials who are still altogether morally upright (who) are not receptive to gambling payolas," he said, lamenting as "bad news" a reported plan by the provincial board to give the PCSO the green light for the lottery. The board is to hold a hearing on the issue on Oct. 19.

Throwing his support behind the prelate, Gov. Victor Agbayani said he would urge the board to "instead help preserve the gains of the archbishop's crusade and heed his call to eradicate the culture of gambling."

"As far as the provincial government is concerned, we will help the poor improve their lives by redoubling our efforts in helping the farmers and the small- and medium-scale entrepreneurs," Agbayani said.

In Manila, Puerto Princesa Mayor and antijueteng czar Edward Hagedorn pushed for yet another form of legalized jueteng. This is the small town lottery (STL) in which part of the proceeds will be allocated to the collectors, the police, the host local government and even the health sector.

Hagedorn, who claimed to have eradicated jueteng throughout Luzon except for a few "guerrilla operations," said the small town lottery can bring in as much as P6 billion annually in Luzon alone and up to P10 billion if it were to be carried out nationwide.

STL will be a lot like jueteng and would benefit all those who had depended on jueteng, Hagedorn said. "Only the gambling lord will be taken out of the equation."

Hagedorn said that there should be a transition period before jueteng is totally eradicated as advocated by Archbishop Cruz's Krusada Laban sa Jueteng. *With a report from Norman Bordadora*

Sea marshals deployed to Metro Manila ports

By Leila B. Salaverria

BEGINNING THIS MONTH, THE Philippine Coast Guard will deploy quick reactions teams of sea marshals to three major ports in Metro Manila.

The antiterrorist sea marshals, who are also deployed aboard ships, will be on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the North and South Harbors in Manila and at the Cultural Center of the Philippines complex in Pasay City.

PCG Commodore Wilfredo Tamayo, head of Task Force Sea Marshals, said the quick reaction teams were expected to respond to any emergency, including terrorist activities, and could handle a variety of situations.

Each team would be composed of a team leader, two K-9 dogs, two PCG special operation group divers, one bomb disposal expert, two personnel from the Armed Forces and two from the police.

"We want the teams to be able to handle whatever situation takes place at the port areas, which is why we have K-9 units, bomb experts and divers," Tamayo said.

According to Tamayo, the deployment of the teams to port areas was a first for the sea marshals. Usually, the sea marshals, in teams of six, are deployed aboard ships. A team of sea marshals on a ship is composed of personnel from the PCG, the Armed Forces and the police.

TF Sea Marshals was formed in response to the bombing of SuperFerry 14 on Feb. 27, 2004, which left over 100 people dead or missing.

Tamayo said the quick reaction teams at the three port areas would have an office that would also serve as their quarters and storage area for their equipment. The offices would actually be container vans that would be outfitted with windows and flooring.

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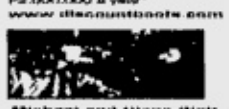
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Pols blamed for poor quality of teaching schools

By Alcuin Papa

A TOP EDUCATION OFFICIAL HAS blamed politicians for the proliferation of schools that offer substandard education courses.

Department of Education (DepEd) Undersecretary for Finance and Administration Juan Miguel Luz told the INQUIRER the Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) had failed to shut down colleges and universities offering substandard education courses because of the intervention of politicians.

Luz was dismissed recently by Malacañang but he has contested his ouster.

(See related story on Page A2)

"What happens is that politicians and congressmen who are owners of these schools or are backing the education programs of state colleges and universities come in and say they don't want the (education) programs shut down. That has always been the problem and CHEd has not been successful in shutting down these schools," Luz said.

Luz noted that the CHEd, under then chair Fr. Rolando de la Rosa, had tried to crack down on substandard nursing schools. "But what did the politicians do? They went to Malacañang and Malacañang told him (Fr. De la Rosa) to stop that. So he left. You are never going to shut down the nonperformers."

The proliferation of the substandard schools is one of the causes of the poor passing rate of examinees in the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET).

According to the Professional Regulatory Commission, only 26.73 percent of education graduates, or two out of every 10, who took the LET in August, passed it.

The LET was administered to 128,909 examinees on Aug. 14 in 17 testing centers around the country. There were 67,333 examinees in the elementary level and 61,576 examinees in the secondary level.

In the elementary level, only 27.5 percent or 18,517 examinees passed. In the secondary level, only 25.89 percent or 15,945 examinees passed.

In 2002, a total of 35.86 percent of elementary and secondary teachers who took the LET passed. In 2003, the number stood at around 26 percent. Last year, 27.05 percent of those who took the exam passed.

"There are hundreds of colleges that still offer education courses even though they have not had any LET passers for the past few years," Luz said.

Another reason for the low LET passing scores, Luz said, is that education as a profession does not attract the best and the brightest because of the low pay.

He said students who graduate at the top of their classes pick other courses like nursing and engineering where there are more opportunities.

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Nurses not yet welcome in Japan

THE JAPANESE MARket for nurses and caregivers remains closed to Filipinos for now as the Philippines and Japan have yet to iron out the agreement that would lay down the guidelines for, among other things, the movement of nationals between the two countries.

Nevertheless, Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas said Japan was very interested in hiring Filipinos to care for its elderly population.

"Japan has acknowledged the skills and the well-known capability of Filipino nurses and caregivers to provide quality and excellent service to their wards," Sto. Tomas said in a statement. "It is looking at Filipino health care professionals to take care of its elderly but it is not yet hiring them at present."

Japan remained closed to Filipino nurses and caregivers because the joint Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement (JPEPA) was still being finalized, Sto. Tomas said.

The JPEPA would set the terms of cooperation between the two countries in the areas of trade, investment promotion, information technology, tourism and the movement of people.

Sto. Tomas said the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration was waiting for the JPEPA to be signed and the go-signal from Japan before it would deploy nurses and caregivers to the country.

Leila B. Salaverria

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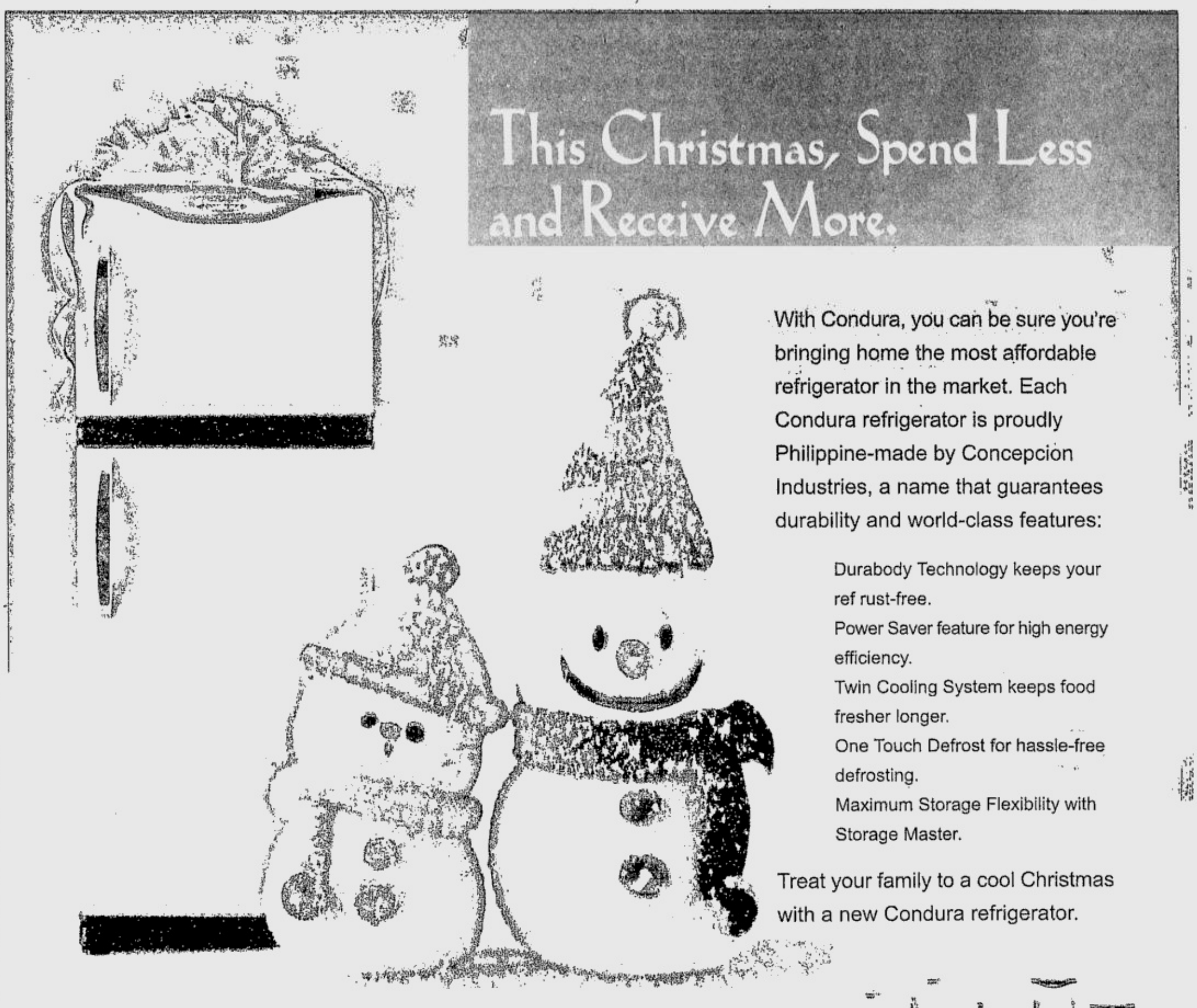

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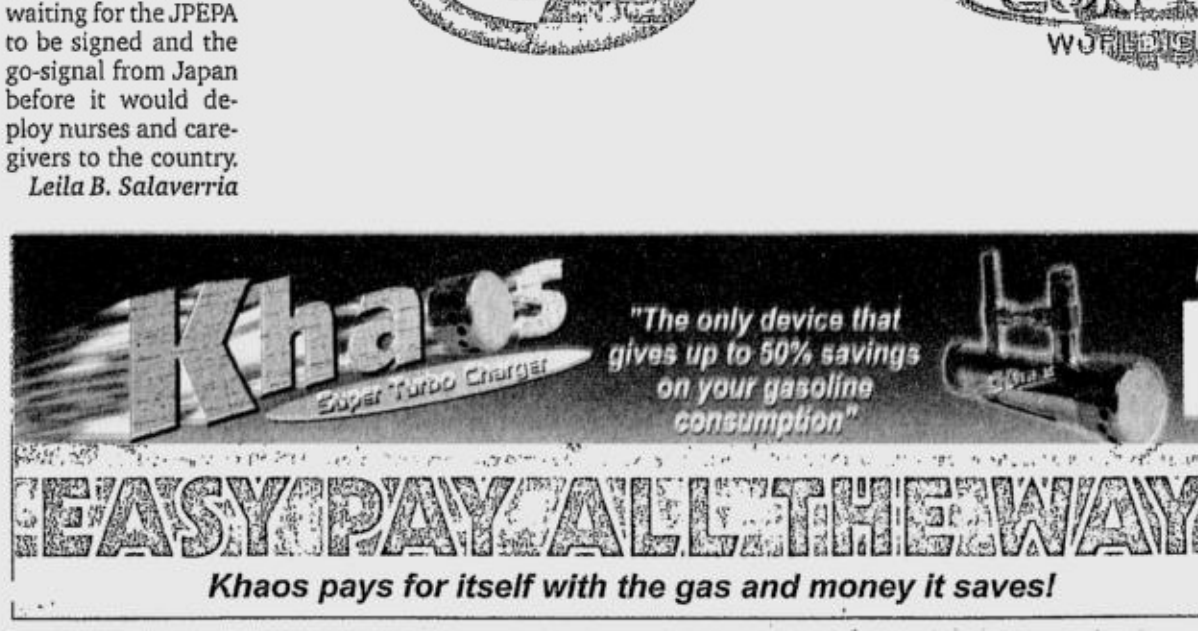

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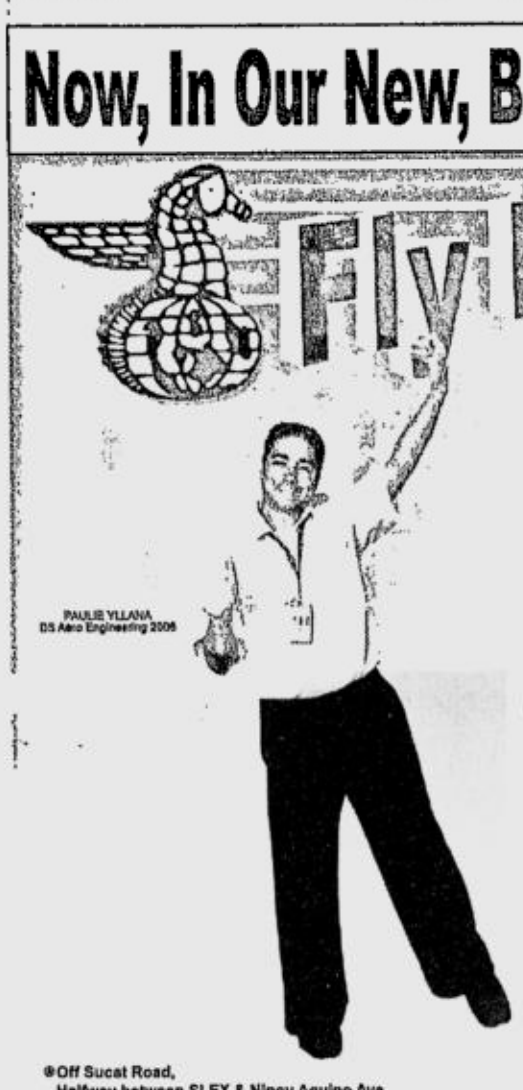

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YOUR FUTURE IS IN THE SKIES

Sex worker joins campaign vs prostitution

From page A1

At the forum organized by the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women-Asia Pacific and the UP Institute of Human Rights, Lydia wore a T-shirt that said it all: "*Ang babae hindi negosyo, kundi buong tao* (A woman is not a source of livelihood, but a whole human being)."

No fanfare

Last week, the International Day of No Prostitution came and went with little fanfare. But women's rights advocates used the occasion to raise the problems on the implementation of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act or Republic Act No. 9208.

CATW-AP and IHR gathered law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, lawmakers and civil society groups to discuss how the law could protect trafficked and prostituted women.

According to Patricia Sison-Arroyo, executive director of the International Justice Mission, the law actually provided protection for trafficked persons through Section 17 of RA 9208.

However, she said the police often arrested prostitutes on the basis of antivagrancy laws, which should no longer be allowed under RA 9208 which contains a clause saying that all laws inconsistent with it should be repealed.

Arroyo admitted that it was not expressly stated in RA 9208 if the antivagrancy laws were included in the clause.

Bantay Bugaw

The lawyer also raised the liability of the patrons of trafficked and prostituted persons. Under the law, customers convicted of using the services of trafficked persons are penalized with six months to one year of imprisonment, she said.

On the other hand, "acts that promote trafficking" are punishable by up to 15 years in jail, she said.

"For me, using the services of prostitutes is the biggest act that promotes trafficking. They (customers) create demand," Arroyo said.

The CATW-AP has launched a project to raise community awareness on the trafficking of persons, mobilize local leaders for its prevention, provide training on the handling of trafficking cases, and institute a support system for the protection and reintegration into society of the survivors of trafficking.

Called the Bantay Bugaw Project, it seeks to create a "quick response team" composed of barangay leaders, police and social workers for the prevention of trafficking in communities.

The project was introduced to two barangays in the cities of Calbayog and Zamboanga, and will soon be tested in Quezon City. Next on the list are Olongapo City, Sorsogon and Mountain Province.

Government's high phone bill traced to 'telebabad'

From page A1

sive telephone use.

Based on a Commission on Audit annual report, Mitra said the government bill for "communication services" rose P447 million or 14 percent to P3.73 billion in 2004 from P3.28 billion the previous year.

Cellular phone usage alone cost the government P414 million.

Mitra noted that mobile phone billings of national government agencies jumped 50 percent, while those of local governments more than doubled.

The bulk of the communication expenses, however, was still for landline phone use, both domestic and international calls, according to Mitra.

Of the total bill, national government agencies spent P1.90 billion; government-owned and -controlled corporations, P1.12 billion, and local government units (LGUs), P710 million.

One item in the COA report that drew Mitra's attention was the marked increased in Internet fees paid by public agencies.

"LGUs tripled their Internet subscription fees to P19 million in 2004, while national government agencies' payments for the same service increased by 25 percent, or to P159 million, during the said year," Mitra said.

Voice over Internet Protocol

To reduce phone expenses, Mitra wants the bureaucracy to institutionalize the use of a technology called "Voice over Internet Protocol" (VoIP).

VoIP allows one to place calls on the Internet for free with the aid of a computer. The technology spares the user "long distance" or mobile phone charges.

A similar technology is being used for free by "chatters" on the Internet through the hugely popular Yahoo Messenger.

Mitra, author of the VoIP bill in the House of Representatives, said VoIP would convert the voice signal from the telephone into a digital signal that travels over the Internet. It then converts the signal back into voice at the other end so that one could speak to anyone with a regular phone number.

Huge savings

He said the "VoIP way" could result in huge savings for the cash-strapped government. The House of Representatives is currently scrutinizing the proposed P1.053-trillion budget of the Arroyo administration for next year.

"Internet penetration, increasing computer and phone densities have created an environment conducive to VoIP," Mitra said.

But any move to aggressively promote VoIP use in government offices should be accompanied by a campaign on the right use of this free technology so it won't be abused by civil servants, he said.

"We don't want a civil service corps addicted to chatting or employees glued to computers because of 'Friendster,'" said Mitra, referring to the phenomenal online community of about 20 million that connects people through networks of friends for dating or making new friends. *Michael Lim Ubac*

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2005

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Major economies call for stable oil prices

XIANGHE, CHINA—THE GROUP OF 20 MOST industrialized and largest developing countries on Sunday called for stable oil prices and greater efforts to free up trade to reduce poverty and sustain economic growth.

At the end of a two-day meeting of G20 finance ministers and central bank governors outside Beijing, the group voiced concern about the threats of historically high oil prices and rising trade protectionism.

Persistently high and volatile oil prices could "increase inflationary pressures, slow down growth and cause instability in the global economy," the G20 said in a joint statement.

Major producers were urged to boost oil supply and refining capacity.

"We agreed to strengthen our cooperation on these issues and stress the need to increase investment, production and refining capacities and to enhance dialogue between oil suppliers and consumers," they said.

In addition, G20 finance and bank chiefs highlighted the importance of promoting energy conservation and efficiency and developing alternative and renewable energy sources.

Subsidies on oil products must also be reduced, they said.

Oil prices shot to record highs in August, raising fears in both developed and developing countries that they could hurt global economic growth.

Australian treasurer Peter Costello told a briefing later Sunday that next year when Australia chairs the forum, the G20 will tackle the issue of energy and resource security.

"With the emergence of new global economic powers, demand for energy and resources are going to increase," Costello said.

"Those economic powers naturally are going to be looking for resource and energy security to drive industrialization and economic growth. This will become a key question for the international community."

Coming two months ahead of World Trade Organization trade liberalization talks in Hong Kong, the G20 also urged developed and developing countries to reach compromise in their trade disputes, which hold up progress in the talks.

"We urge all parties concerned to provide the necessary political impetus to promote trade liberalization, fight protectionism, and make real progress at the WTO ministerial conference to be held in Hong Kong ... with the view to concluding the negotiations by the end of 2006," the G20 said.

The four-year-old WTO Doha Development Round of talks that started in Qatar has been held up by disputes on how far rich nations are willing to drop trade-distorting subsidies and tariffs, especially in the farm sector.

A successful round of WTO talks is "critical" for ensuring globalization truly benefits all countries and contributes to meeting the UN's poverty reduction goals, the joint statement said.

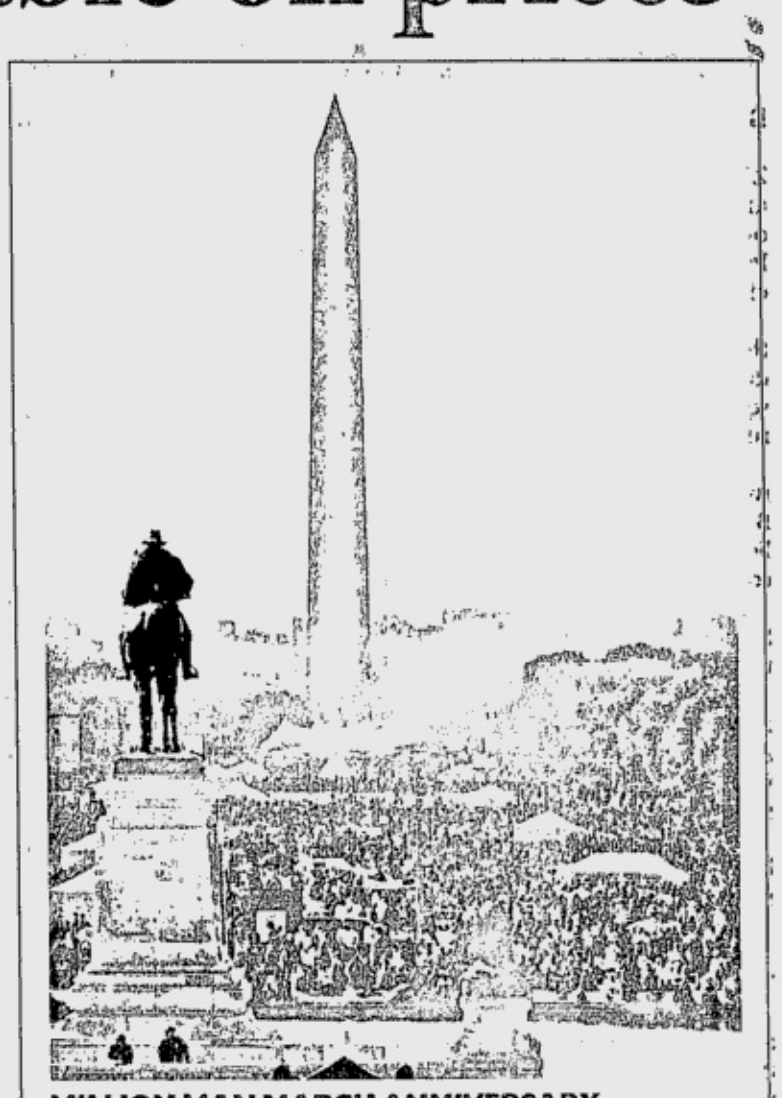
To free up trade, members said they were "committed to significantly increasing market access for goods and services, reducing trade-distorting domestic support (and) eliminating all forms of export subsidies in agriculture."

Specific measures were not cited.

The finance heads also pledged to provide special assistance to developing countries, such as by helping them improve export competitiveness, so they will not be left behind in expanded trade opportunities.

Nations in the G20 "will further explore means to grant the least-developed countries duty-free and quota-free market access," they said.

World Bank President Paul Wolfowitz stressed Saturday that free and fair trade, especially in farm products, will be crucial in fighting global poverty, and that the world's poorest are counting on rich nations to deliver results. *AFP*



MILLION MAN MARCH ANNIVERSARY
Thousands of people gather on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., Oct. 15 to take part in the Millions More Movement. Thousands of African-Americans are rallying to mark the 10th anniversary of the Million Man March and focus on problems faced by the country's poor. REUTERS

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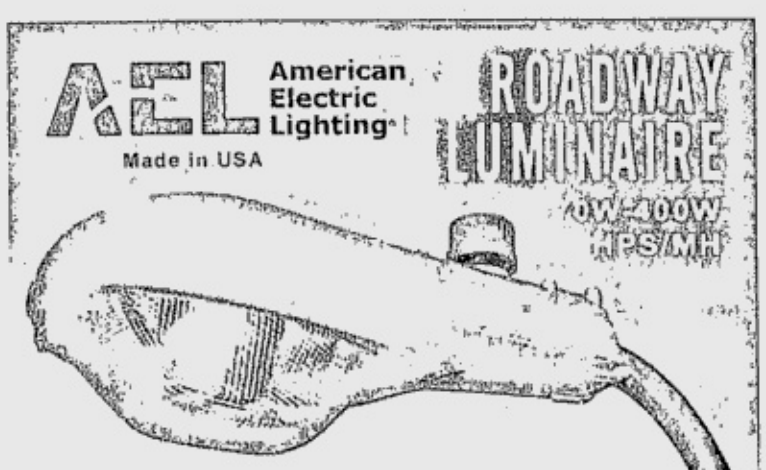

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Provinces may decide outcome of Iraq poll

BAGHDAD—IRAQI OFFICIALS COUNTED ballots on Sunday after a historic vote on a US-backed constitution with the fate of the document in the hands of a few provinces where Sunnis may muster enough "No" votes to block it.

A massive security clampdown prevented any serious insurgent attacks on voting day, with only scattered strikes reported around the country after months of Sunni Arab militant bloodshed that has killed thousands.

Rockets woke the powerful residents of Baghdad's Green Zone government compound shortly after dawn but there was no sign of any damage from the three routine strikes, officials said.

Election officials said partial results from the vote could be available as early as Sunday, but that it would take several days for the verdict to become clear.

If the constitution passes Iraq will go to the polls again in December to elect a new, four-year parliament in a step that Washington says will mark its full emergence as a sovereign democracy and new Western ally.

A "No" vote would force the country's warring factions back to the drawing board, limiting December's election to a new interim government to redraft the charter.

Most of Iraq's 18 provinces were expected to support the constitution, following Shiite and Kurdish government leaders who have tailored many of its provisions to their needs.

But it could still be blocked if two thirds of the voters in at least three provinces reject it.

Electoral officials said as many as 10 million of Iraq's eligible 15.5 million voters cast ballots, which would give a turnout of around 65 percent—higher than the 58 percent recorded in January when the country went to the polls for the first time since Saddam Hussein's 2003 overthrow.

Despite the uncertainty, Saturday's election won praise from the United Nations and the Bush administration.

"The vote today is an important milestone. They will have elections in December for a permanent government. Every time the Iraqi people have been given an opportunity to express themselves politically they have taken it," US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told the BBC in an interview.

The White House praised the large turnout in the referendum and the relative calm compared to the January election of an interim government when more than 40 people were killed in more than 100 insurgent attacks, including suicide bombings.

"It appears that the level of violence was well below the last election," White House spokesperson Allen Abney said.

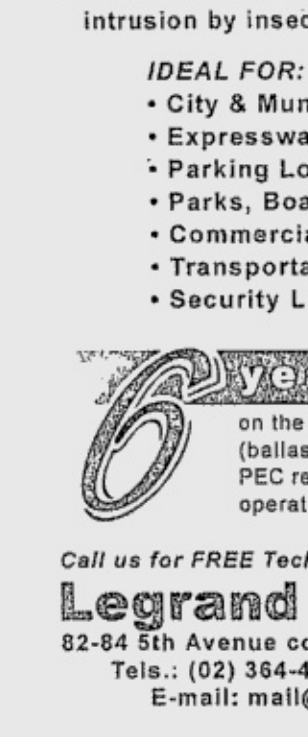
"Today's vote deals a severe blow to the ambitions of the terrorists and sends a clear message to the world that the people of Iraq will decide the future of their country through peaceful elections, not violent insurgencies," he added.

Saturday's ballot came exactly three years to the day after Iraq's last constitutional referendum, which asked voters if they wanted to extend Saddam's rule by seven years. Saddam's regime said 100 percent of eligible voters cast their ballots and 100 percent supported him.

The Sunni Arabs who dominated Iraq during Saddam's rule but were sidelined after boycotting the January elections are broadly opposed to the new constitution, fearing Iraq may break up into Shiite and Kurdish spheres that will deprive them of both power and oil.

At least two Sunni-dominated provinces—Anbar to the west and Salahadin around Saddam's hometown of Tikrit—are all but certain to vote heavily "No." An electoral official in Tikrit, Saleh Farah, said votes against the constitution in the city were 43,571—or 96 percent of those voting.

More broadly, he said, the "No" vote in Salahadin, excluding the restive and predominantly Sunni city of Samarra, was 65 percent, just short of the veto level of 66.66 percent. *Reuters*



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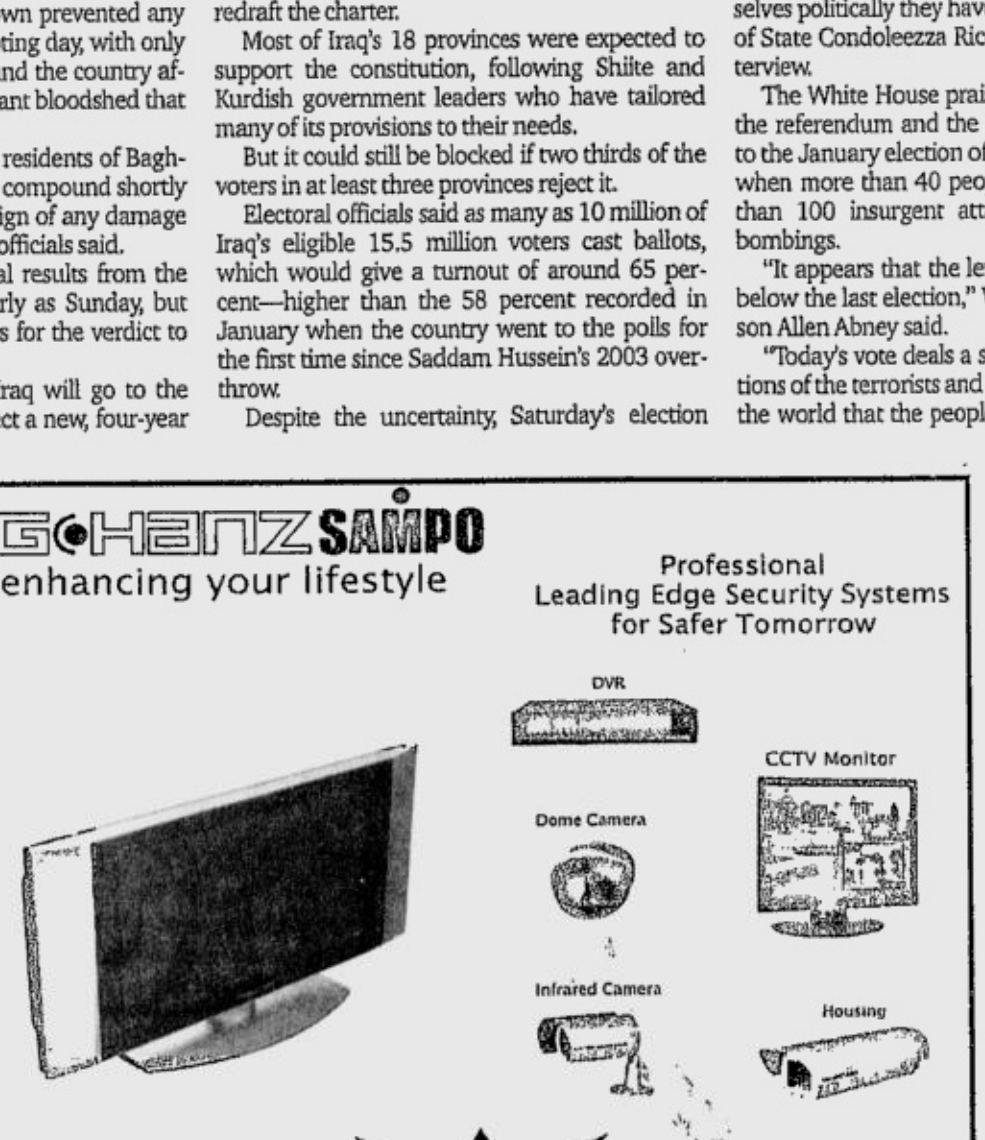

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QUAKE AID

Choppers now, mules afterward

By Danny Kemp

ZIARAT, PAKISTAN—HELICOPTERS FROM around the world have formed the backbone of efforts to help remote corners of quake-hit Pakistan, but when they go home relief officials say mules will take their place.

If the global mercy mission has a sound, it is the earsplitting thwump of up to 90 choppers a day flying over the cracked roofs of the region, sending vibrations like new tremors through the rubble.

The United States has deployed five giant twin-rotor CH-47 Chinooks, three sleek UH-60 Black Hawks and two powerful MH-53 Sea Stallions in the latest example of Washington's "helicopter diplomacy" in the developing world.

From Germany two American-built CH-53 Super Stallions have been a regular sight over the broken rooftops of the region.

Russian-made Mi-17s are used by the United Nations, the Red Cross and poverty-stricken Afghanistan, which has found itself in the unusual position of offering aid elsewhere and has sent four.

The mainstay of the helicopter relief effort however has been Pakistan itself, mobilizing more than 30 Mi-17s and US-made UH-1s—whose distinctive throb and fuselage-mounted skids are more familiar from Vietnam War films.

Without these fearsome pieces of technology, and their hardworking pilots, the aid effort after the quake that killed at least 38,000 people would never have got off the ground.

Helicopter crash

But in a sign of the risks involved, six Pakistani military personnel were killed Saturday when their Mi-17 crashed near the Kashmiri town of Bagh.

The bigger choppers ferry supplies to main towns like devastated Muzaffarabad and rush casualties back to the capital Islamabad—500 on Friday alone. They were vital in the early days when all roads to the quake zone were cut.

The smaller ones drop food, blankets and tents to the crushed hamlets that litter the valleys of the quake zone, and evacuate thousands of often critically injured survivors.

On one of the most challenging missions this week, the Pakistani Army flew in to Ziarat, a rabble of wooden houses teetering on the top of a 5,000-foot ridge in the devastated Jhelum Valley, southeast of Muzaffarabad.

Three times the Pakistani crew of a Vietnam-style UH-1 "Huey" tried to touch down on a patch of rocky ground barely bigger than their own helicopter, a steep precipice on either side, before they were successful.

Before the skids even touched the ground people had rushed from the wreckage of the village, bearing sick women and children wrapped in filthy blankets in their arms or lying on traditional wooden bedframes known as *charpoys*.

"You, not you," shouted one of the pilots who had jumped out of the cockpit, helping a woman with a bandaged head into the cramped cabin and fending off a gnarled old man clutching a small tear-stained boy.

Still more villagers crowded around and were nearly blown off their feet by the massive downdraft from the still-spinning blades as the helicopter's loading manager warned others away from the tail rotor.

Less than five minutes after landing, the helicopter lifted slowly then veered off at a drunken angle towards Muzaffarabad, 10 casualties in its belly, some weeping and others too sick to move.

Desperate appeal

UN and Pakistani officials have desperately appealed for the world to send more helicopters to help out. During a visit to Muzaffarabad on Friday, Information Minister Sheikh Rashid said extra choppers were vital.

One option remains out of the question—helicopters from Pakistan's neighbor and long-time foe India.

"There is a place with hundreds of helicopters that could easily bring food, blankets and tents, and that is in Indian Kashmir," a senior aid official said on condition of anonymity, referring to the disputed Himalayan territory that is split between New Delhi's and Islamabad's control.

"But the first thing the Pakistanis told us after the earthquake was that they would take helicopters from anywhere except India and Israel."

In any case, the helicopters are vulnerable to the weather—and that is about to turn for the worse.

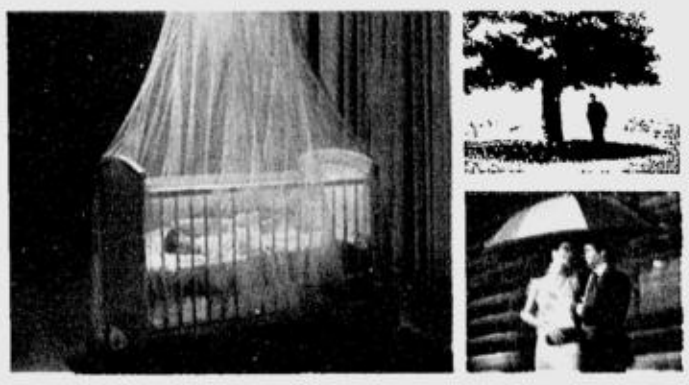
Twice in the first week since the Oct. 8 quake heavy rain has stopped chopper flights and officials say conditions are about to deteriorate, with snow arriving Saturday on the mountains that loom over Muzaffarabad.

After the helicopters are grounded or have returned to their home countries, officials say mules are likely to bear the burden for getting supplies up twisting paths to cut-off villages.

The Pakistani Army has traditionally kept scores of the beasts for its military and humanitarian operations in the network of peaks and valleys in the rugged north.

"They are capable of reaching the parts machines cannot reach," said a Pakistani Army spokesperson.

Mules have already begun to lug heavy loads to isolated villages near Balakot, a northwestern tourist town that suffered some of the most devastating damage in the quake. *AFP*



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Tests confirm deadly bird flu strain has reached Europe

BUCHAREST—LABORATORY TESTS showed on Saturday that the same deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu as that found in Turkey and Asia had infected ducks in Romania, confirming the virus had reached mainland Europe.

A British laboratory testing Romanian samples established that three birds found dead in the Danube delta last week contained the H5N1 strain, which has killed more than 60 people and caused the death of millions of birds in Asia since 2003.

The World Health Organization's top influenza expert, echoing previous warnings, said the virus could mutate into a form that could kill thousands or millions of people around the world and urged governments to prepare for such a pandemic.

But encouraging news came from China, where state media said a new, improved vaccine for birds had been developed, a low-cost spray that could protect them from the H5N1 strain of avian flu.

The spread of the virus in Asia has been blamed on backyard farms and open-air markets where humans and birds mingle in often unsanitary conditions, and authorities have been unable to wipe it out despite large-scale culling and vaccination.

In Turkey, the state Anatolian news agency reported that nearly 1,000 chickens had died in the east, near the Iranian border, after being transported from the west of the country. It said samples had been sent for tests for possible bird flu, but did not say where exactly the birds had been moved from.

A Turkish Health Ministry official said earlier that nine people under observation in hospital for possible bird flu had been allowed to go home as tests showed they were not infected.

Turkish officials also said the incubation period for the avian flu found on a farm in the northwest was over, and the danger to humans had passed.

The EU Commission in Brussels confirmed that the H5N1 strain found in Romanian ducks was exactly the same as that detected in Turkish birds. "The link has now been confirmed," Health and Consumer Protection Commissioner Markos Kyprianou said in a statement.

Kyprianou said the European Union had already banned poultry and live bird imports from Romania, so no further measures were needed. EU veterinary experts will meet on Thursday to review the situation, he added. *Reuters*

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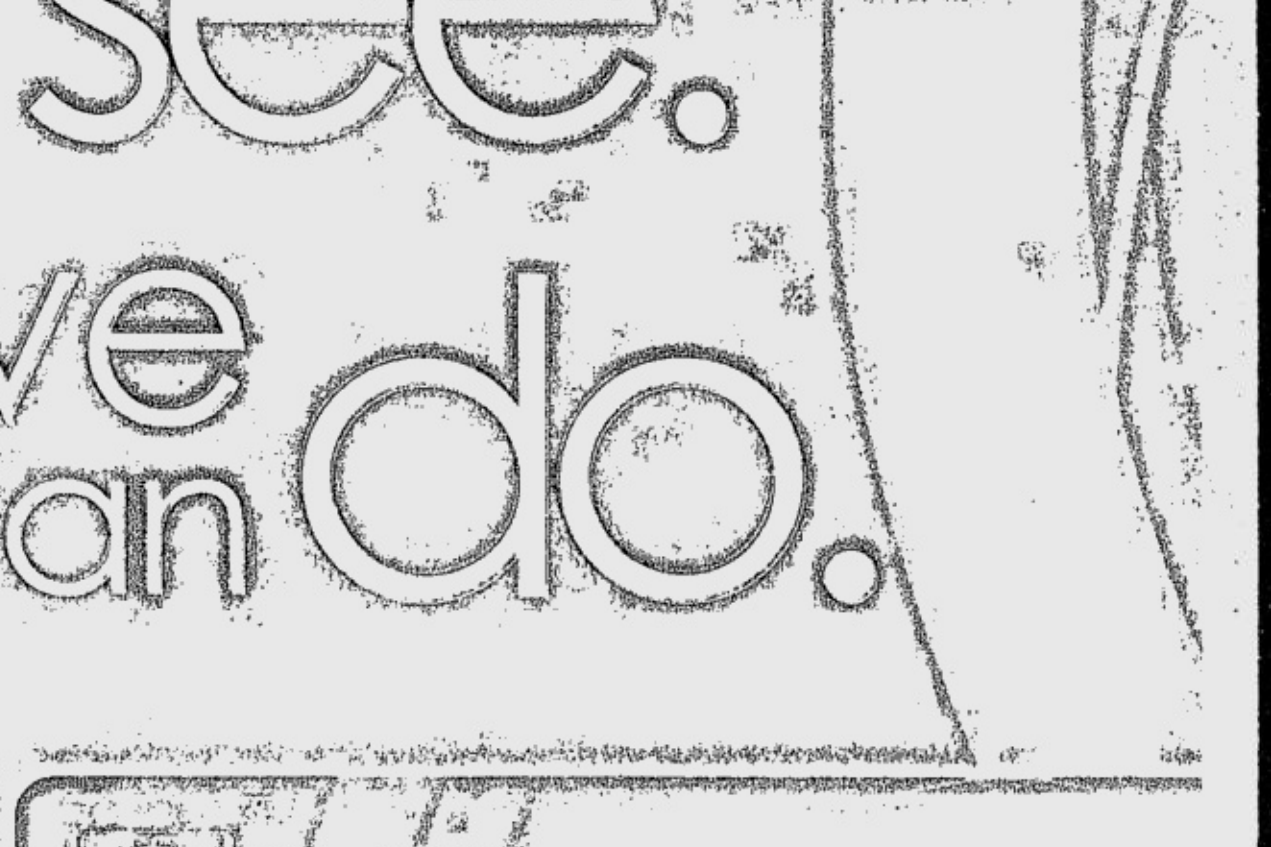

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Most Japanese support female royal succession

TOKYO—A RECORD NUMBER OF Japanese want a law on imperial succession changed to allow a woman to succeed to the throne, an opinion poll showed.

The Tokyo Shimbun newspaper said on Sunday the poll showed 84 percent of respondents approved of the idea that an empress could rule Japan, which the paper said was the highest proportion it had ever recorded in such a survey.

The question of succession to the throne now occupied by 71-year-old Emperor Akihito is gaining urgency because no boys have been born into the Imperial household for four decades.

The poll comes weeks before an advisory panel to Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi is expected to issue recommendations on whether to revise the 1947 law limiting accession to males and their descendants.

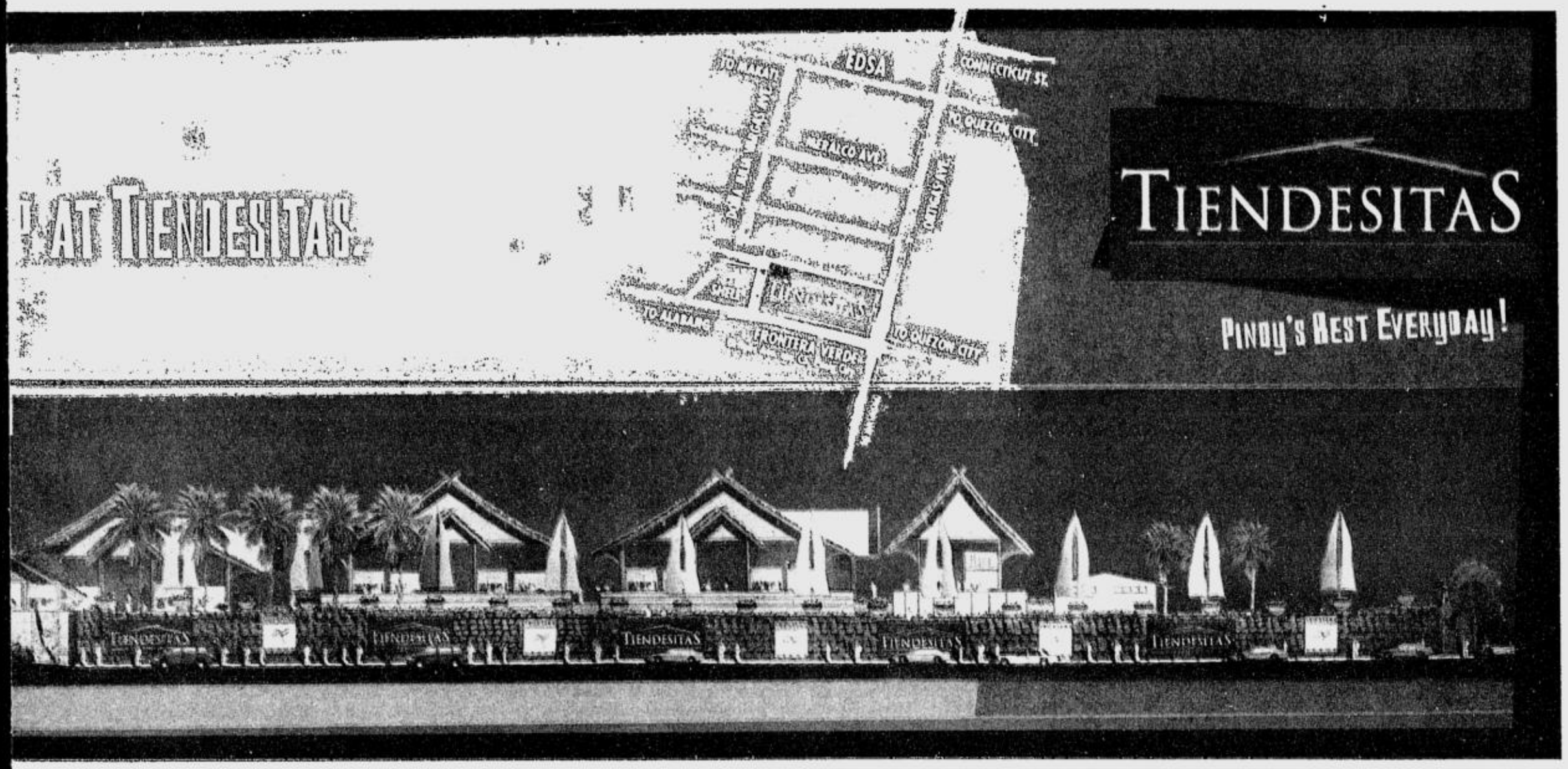
A change in the law could allow Princess Aiko, the only child of heir to the throne, Crown Prince Naruhito, to become Japan's first reigning empress since the 18th century.

Aiko was born in 2001, eight years after Naruhito married Crown Princess Masako, a Harvard-educated former diplomat who will turn 42 in December.

An alternative proposal backed by some conservative scholars that would entail reviving noble houses abolished after World War II in an attempt to find a male heir, was supported by 21 percent of respondents to the poll. Forty-seven percent said reviving the noble houses was not a good idea, the paper said.

Only 6 percent of respondents said succession should be limited to males.

The results were based on 1,746 responses from adults around the country interviewed on Oct. 1 and 2, Kyodo news agency said. *Reuters*



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Per DTI-NCR Permit No.5869 Series of 2005.

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Unpopular anger

EDITORIALS

PERHAPS, THE HARD-LINERS IN THE PALACE should take their fingers—already crooked with long-borne tension—off the panic button long enough to listen to Sen. Ralph Recto. After all, the grandson of Claro M. Recto—the late champion of civil liberties, after whom the main thoroughfare that leads to Mendiola Bridge is named—has been one of the staunchest allies of the President.

Among many other things, Recto championed the controversial expanded Value-Added Tax law, a potential career-ender, on behalf of Malacañang. It would be difficult for even the closest allies of President Macapagal Arroyo to question Recto's reliability as a member of the ruling coalition.

But after the violent (and totally unnecessary) dispersal of last week's prayer rally and religious procession near Malacañang, Recto issued a not-so-gentle reminder: "Hosing down demonstrators will not douse water on their passions. On the contrary, like water to plants, it is these acts that nurture more demonstrations."

Could it be that Recto, who was only a student during the martial law years, learned more from the country's tragic experiment with strong-arm tactics than the ex-generals, former journalists, veteran politicians, and retired schoolteachers who now run Malacañang?

"History has shown that water you use to disperse citizens has an uncanny way of returning as a tidal wave of unpopular anger," Recto also said. Perhaps he really meant "popular" anger, but we get the point. The question is, does the Palace get it?

Opposition Sen. Sergio Osmeña III was right to direct our attention to the inevitable photos and video footage—of the water cannons hitting ex-Vice President Teofisto Guingona, Sen. Jamby Madrigal, and three Roman Catholic bishops—that international media will carry. These "will shock foreigners and will drastically affect the investment and tourism image of our country."

But the real impact will be as Recto and another member of the Senate's so-called Wednesday Club, ex-human rights lawyer and administration maverick Sen. Joker Arroyo, suggest: It will help steel popular resolve against the President. "What happened will radicalize a number of people," Sen. Arroyo said.

"Radicalize" is derived from "root"—you know, the kind that needs water to thrive.

Unintended consequences

IF further proof were needed that the administration's hard line on street protests is counter-productive politics, consider the transformation of opposition Sen. Jamby Madrigal. Because she joined the prayer rally and religious procession near Malacañang last week, and was among those who were doused by a water cannon, Madrigal has suddenly found herself on moral high ground.

Before last week's "wet" dispersal, Madrigal was merely a first-term senator with a lot of money, someone closely associated with deposed President Joseph Estrada and his brand of populist politics, someone elected to office because of the kind of vacuous celebrity-driven campaign (for which she had engaged the services of show business star Judy Ann Santos). Her public reputation had seesawed between petty vindictiveness (because of the stories about the way she allegedly treated former staff members once she assumed office) and pretentious nonsense (because of the sudden risible lectures she was wont to deliver during Senate hearings).

But Madrigal, who has no love lost for President Macapagal-Arroyo, decided last week to walk the talk. In the process, she got an unforgettable immersion in the parliament of the streets. Even those in the opposition who thought her suspect, because of her old-money background and her lack of political experience, must now concede that she has new-found street cred, so to speak.

Her immediate response to the "unbelievable" incident has been rather unpredictable: She said she will file a case alleging human rights abuse against the Arroyo administration before the UN Commission on Human Rights—exactly the kind of publicity the President needs like a hole in the head.

For lifting her clear out of the waters of merely partisan politics, Madrigal can thank Malacañang, its calibrated preemptive response policy, and the unforgiving law of unintended consequences.

Ate Glue doing it all wrong

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

VICE PRESIDENT TEOFISTO GUINGONA, three bishops, scores of priests and nuns were "canonized" last Friday the 14th—not by the Pope but upon the order of Ate Glue who not only claimed that she personally talked to Pope John Paul II and was advised by him to break her promise not to run for president (a claim the dead Pope could no longer deny); she also said she's also in constant contact with the Lord through prayers. (Surprisingly, an opposition leader corroborated the latter claim: "I confirm that she contacts a certain lord—a *jueteng* lord," which, of course, I don't believe.)

But back to the "canonization" of Guingona, et al., shouldn't they feel flattered by the honor? They weren't, because they were "canonized" with powerful jets of water from firemen's water cannons. Poor Fr. Robert Reyes, he almost drowned on dry land. The running priest couldn't run away because he had his arms linked with those of other ralliers. "So that was how it feels to be engulfed by a tsunami," said one of them.

The story goes that the powerful jets of water washed the white cassock of Father Reyes so clean that when he said Mass the next day, one parishioner asked: "Father, *pumuputi ba kayo* (Father, are you getting whiter)?"

To which Father Reyes reportedly replied, "*Hindi naman ako tisoy, eh, maputi lang ang damit ko* (But I'm not a mestizo, it's just my white suit)."

Anyway, top police officials were quick to deny giving the order to hose down the peaceful demonstrators. They put the blame on two firemen, one of whom was shown on television grinning as he "fired" his water cannon at Father Reyes, as if thinking, "You so and so, *ngayon lang ako makakabawi sa iyo* (It's only now I can get even with you)."

But according to the story, the firemen really held no ill will against the protesters but were just trying to save money for the government. "The water tanker was already here," one of them reportedly said. "We paid good money for the water in it. It would be a waste of money not to use it."

* * *

It wasn't just the firemen who came up with classic quotes. Four of the riot police who beat up the protesters went to the Commission on Human Rights to complain that "their human rights were violated by the ralliers. *(sic)*" How? They displayed contusions and scratches on their arms.

The commissioners asked them if they knew the rules of engagement.

"Engagement to whom?" one reportedly asked, then declared. "I have no boyfriend."

"Read the rules," the commissioners said. "Do you know what calibrated preemptive response (CPR) means?"

"I know," one cop replied. "It means policemen are free to choose what caliber bullet to use against the ralliers."

* * *

I think Ate Glue is doing it all wrong. I understand what she is trying to do. She is trying to scare the opposition with all this talk about martial law, emergency rule, CPR, EO 464, BP 880, takeover of private businesses, and now water cannons. She is unnerved by the protest marches being held against her everywhere. She wants to stop them. But she doesn't know how.

First, she tried the carrot. She delivered so many speeches about uniting and working together that her message became nauseating. But the speeches did not stop the marches. So she's now trying the big stick and the Filipino saying that "*Kung hindi ka madala sa santong dasalan, dadaanin kita sa santong paspasan* (If I can't persuade you with pleas, I'll do it by force)."

But as I said in a previous column, the people are no longer afraid of draconian measures and martial law. They brought down a dictatorship with nothing but rosaries and prayers on Edsa—that was a shining moment for Filipinos. That historic act of theirs was hailed and copied all over the world. They did it before, they can do it again.

Marcos did everything in his power to cow his enemies. He threw them into prison, made some of them disappear, filed charges against others, took over businesses, seduced others with favors and flattery, tried to gag the press, hosed down protesters with water cannons, etc. And cheated in the elections for president (familiar, isn't it?). All for naught.

The people still chased the Marcoses out of Malacañang. And those whom he persecuted, those who fled to the United States to become "steak commandos," came back like conquering heroes though they did nothing but eat steaks there (it was the homegrown heroes on Edsa who risked their lives and did everything), and got themselves elected and appointed to government positions and became the new leaders.

It was only later that the Marcoses and their cronies got the guts to slowly and quietly creep back into a forgiving and forgetful Philippine society.

So the present opposition leaders would like nothing better than to reprise the roles of the opposition against Marcos. To be harassed by Marcos then was a shortcut to fame and fortune. To be harassed by Ate Glue now would lead to the same thing. That photograph of Chino Roces and Lorenzo Tañada, et al. being hosed down at Mendiola became famous. The new photographs of Guingona-Father Reyes, et al. being hosed down will become a classic, too, mark my word.

What I'm trying to say in a roundabout way is that the arsenal Ate Glue and her hawks are getting from their bag of tricks will not stop the opposition. Most of the opposition members have been through that and they're not afraid of the worst that Ate Glue can do. It is like throwing the turtle into the river. It will not stop the protest marchers. On the contrary, each dispersal only goads them to try again.

The sensible thing to do is to let them march as much as they want. They'll soon get tired of it if they don't get any reaction from the government. And if they're paying some of the marchers to boost their ranks, they'll soon run out of money.

Flood

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I REMEMBER WHERE TEOFISTO GUINGONA was on Nov. 5, 2000. He was in the Senate delivering a fiery speech. Chavit Singson had just come out to say that his former buddy, Erap, had been getting millions from gambling lords. Guingona took to the floor of the Senate and indicted Erap with a speech titled, a la Emile Zola, "I Accuse." The speech sparked a series of actions against Erap, culminating a month later in the House moving to impeach him. A couple more months later, he was out of a job. And a home: He was in captivity.

I do not remember where GMA was at that time. I do remember that she did not appear anywhere to tell Guingona et al. in a "Hello Garci" voice to stop their political rigmarole and buckle down to work. Come to think of it, I don't recall even Erap doing that.

I remember where Fr. Robert Reyes was in late 2000 and early January 2001. If he wasn't running, he was fasting. If he wasn't fasting, he was praying. If he wasn't praying, he was marching. Half the time, he was doing all the above at the same time. He was at the front ranks of the fight to oust Erap for betraying the public trust, and he could be seen everywhere, along with other priests and bishops, pressing his cause.

I do not remember where GMA was at that time. I do recall seeing her in the company of Cory and Cardinal Sin, notably in a prayerful pose. I recall in particular seeing her kneeling in front of the altar in the Edsa Shrine, sandwiched between Cory and Sin who were beaming at their protégé and probably thinking she would be grateful to them forever.

I remember where Satur Ocampo was on those same months. He and the other members of Bayan Muna were holding rally after rally at the foot of Mendiola Bridge. What made their cause especially remarkable was that they had joined the majority of protesters calling for the ouster of Erap and following the line of succession stipulated by the Constitution. That is to say, for the vice president, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, to take over. A splinter group of leftists, led by the late Popoy Lagman, was calling not just for the ouster of the president, but the vice president, the Senate president and House speaker as well. "Resign All" was their slogan.

I do not remember where GMA was at the time. Certainly, I do not recall hearing her protesting all this was wrong, this was nothing more than a power grab against a duly, indeed popularly, elected president. What I do remember was that shortly after the generals joined the crowd at the Shrine, GMA's representatives were at Malacañang ahead of everybody else, negotiating the terms of Erap's "surrender." "*Atat na atat* (Already itching so much to take over)," to use Susan Roces' famous, or infamous, words.

The above were but some of the people GMA's goons water-cannoned in Mendiola last Friday. These were the very people who brought her to power by the very means she had them water-cannoned for, defying oppression to right a wrong. It is to Erap's eternal credit that he never stopped the protests with an act of violence. And he was unarguably the president, one who could claim to have been speaking on behalf of the voters if he had water-cannoned Guingona et al. He just decided to bow down to, quite literally, the march of truth.

I do not know that Ocampo et al. ever regret risking life and limb, and defying the judgment of heaven and history, to bring an upstart to Malacañang, one who would prove to be even worse than Marcos. Marcos, too, was at least voted president twice before he became a dictator; GMA has never been voted president and she has become a dictator. I half-suspect they do not regret one bit having taken up the struggle even if they regret every inch the way it was hijacked wholesale by those who were never a part of it. The fact that they continue to struggle to this day must show so.

There are "trigger moments" in history, acts that contain tremendous symbolic significance, that encapsulate the essence of things, that indict and provoke and stoke people to outrage and action. The murder of Ninoy Aquino was one of them. It swiftly gave rise to the phrase, "*Tama na, sobra na, palitan na.*" It spoke of a level of abuse that was past being tolerated and borne. The bullet that pierced the skull of Ninoy did not silence his voice, it turned it into a roar. One loud enough for all the world to hear.

The water-cannoning of the demonstrators at Mendiola may well prove to be another such "trigger moment." At the very least, it disproved once and for all that the protest against GMA was coming from the "opposition," which would like nothing better than to oust the worst rival it has ever had. It proved that the outrage against GMA was coming from the people, who would like nothing better than to oust the worst tyrant they have ever seen. At the very most it spoke of depths of ingratitude no Filipino has sunk to before. Without the people GMA water-cannoned last Friday, she would never have been in any position to lift a cannon, water or otherwise, in her life.

In-between, it spoke of an attempt quite literally to drown out all protest, all voice, all sound in this country. It is the perfect symbol for what GMA has been trying to do, increasingly desperately, from killing the impeachment bid to banning protest rallies and preventing people—like Gen. Francisco Gudani and Col. Alexander Balutan—from testifying against her, which is not to disprove she cheated but to drown out all talk of it. It is the perfect symbol: calling on the firefighters to put out a conflagration of her making, drowning the protesters along with their protests in a rush of water.

Well, water is a purifying element, too. I wouldn't be surprised if the water GMA loosed last Friday soon turns into a flood tumbling in her direction.

Temporary State takeover of businesses

SOUNDING BOARD

Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

THE PROVISION WAS NOT IN THE 1935 CONstitution. It was a product of martial law thinking. How we allowed it to stay in the 1987 Constitution, I must admit, I cannot explain. I was there when it happened, but I do not recall that I objected to it. In fact, I do not recall anybody objecting to it.

I am, of course, referring to Section 17 of the Article on National Economy which says: "In times of national emergency, when the public interest so requires, the State may, during the emergency and under reasonable terms prescribed by it, temporarily take over or direct the operation of any privately owned public utility or business affected with public interest."

This is the provision which, we are told, Secretary Raul Gonzalez has been studying. But I do not know what the results of his studies are. He has kept them under wraps.

In a piece I wrote last week, I said that the President cannot assume "emergency powers" without an empowering law coming from Congress. I also said that the President may impose martial law on her own but that she can be stopped on her tracks by either Congress or the Supreme Court.

Section 17, however, is something else. She can activate it alone and there are no specific limits laid out in the Constitution.

But why get excited about it? The simple reason is that the specter of martial law has been floating in the air, and Section 17 was born under the auspices of martial law. It slipped into the 1973 Constitution while the Constitutional Convention continued its deliberations after martial law had been declared.

When the 1971 Constitutional Convention approved this provision for insertion into what became the 1973 Constitution, martial law was in effect. In fact, what became Section 17 was born on the day martial law was declared. On that day, President Marcos issued Letter of Instruction No. 2, dated Sept. 22, 1972, instructing the secretary of national defense to take over "the management, control and operation of the Manila Electric Company, the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company, the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority, the Philippine National Railways, the Philippine Air Lines, Air Manila (and) Filipinas Orient Airways ... for the successful prosecution by the Government of its effort to contain, solve and end the present national emergency."

This Letter of Instruction became the model of Section 17 and was among the executive acts which the Convention wanted ratified through Section 3(2), Article XVII of the 1973 Constitution. Section 3(2) said: "All proclamations, orders, decrees, letters of instruction and acts promulgated, issued, or done by the incumbent President shall be part of the law of the land and shall remain valid, legal, binding and effective even after lifting of martial law."

It is thus clear that, in the mind of the 1971 Convention, the power, as granted under the 1973 Constitution, could be exercised by the executive arm of the government unaided. And it is for the executive arm to decide whether a "national emergency" and "public interest" demanded the temporary takeover. Moreover, unlike the emergency powers which may be granted by Congress, the takeover authorized by Section 17 is not subject to a specific duration. The duration of the takeover depends on the President's discretion.

It should also be noted that while Section 17 may have been a product of "martial law thinking," as it stands even now, it does not require a martial law situation for it to be operative. The temporary state takeover can be carried out in "times of national emergency, when the public interest requires." The law does not specify the type of emergency that would justify temporary state takeover, thus giving the President a very broad discretionary power.

When the provision was presented for retention in the 1986 Constitutional Commission, "national emergency" was explained as an encompassing threat from external aggression, calamities, or natural disasters, but not strikes. The duration of the emergency was seen as the measure of the duration of the takeover. The phrase "under reasonable terms prescribed by it" was added upon the instance of Commissioner Jamir. When asked, moreover, what "it" referred to, Jamir said that it referred to the state. When pressed whether he meant Congress or the President, Jamir said: "I suppose it will be through an appropriate agency."

Section 17 does not require, as does Article VI, Section 23(2), that the authorization be "by law." The authorization can come from the President.

In retrospect now, I am surprised that we at the 1986 Constitutional Commission allowed this to stay. We must have been dozing when it slipped through. And now that Secretary Gonzalez has admitted that he has prepared a study on the subject, presumably with the blessing of the President, the business community is disturbed. Rightly so, especially when you consider what happened to the businesses which were temporarily taken over by virtue of Letter of Instruction No. 2 of 1972. And I say, presumably with the blessing of the President, because the acts of department heads done in the performance of their duties are presumed to be the acts of the President unless she expressly reprobates them. She has not reprobated them.

In conclusion, I can only say that, if we ever get around to revising the Constitution, this is one provision which should go.

The sum of our fears

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Noralyn Mustafa

BEFORE I DIE OF FRIGHT FROM WATCHING Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo (with blazing eyes and amplified voice threatening us "with the full force of the law") and Raul Gonzalez (mumbling about his sneaky "research" on a draft that would arm Ms Arroyo with emergency powers), I appeal to all independent television stations to please spare us any more announcements like "the President is going to address the nation this afternoon, etc."

Even in the best of times, neither GMA nor Gonzalez is a pretty sight. When my neighbors and I are debating on which is the better alternative—charcoal or firewood—to the LPG that we can no longer afford, the faces of these two appearing on TV effectively constitute cruel and unusual—even unbearable—punishment.

It is not so much that they defy all known rules and standards of aesthetics which is, to us, the most depressing and distressing; it is how they are so blatantly conniving, together with their coconspirators, to slowly but inexorably establish a reign of fear, repression, prohibition and secrecy, with or without the illegal executive orders that Ms Arroyo has been issuing in clear violation of the Constitution.

In this kind of atmosphere, suspense can be debilitating; and fear of the unknown, expecting the unexpected can actually kill.

But even if I die today, I will bring with me the images of those defiant students who were mercilessly hosed down by Ms Arroyo's police forces last Thursday while they were on their way to Mendiola. So moved by the whole blessed night, I immediately ransacked my junkbox and frantically searched for my sandals (leather, no Mojo yet that time) and bell bottoms (they still fit!), the poncho and beads I got at the Baguio market, and the ankh and peace pendants bought from a sidewalk in Quiapo.

Like me and the rest of my generation, these objects from my youth lived through the dawning of the Age of Aquarius. We have waited for three decades for the morning to come at last. This was my way of being with the rest of my generation in spirit.

While we, their fathers and mothers either cowered in fear at the sight of Ms Arroyo reappearing after her periodic disappearances, the students held their ground without fear, determined to face the full might and brutality of water cannons with their frail bodies. They stood defiant, taking upon themselves the daunting duty of righting the wrong that their elders have brought upon their country and their people.

Though in numbers they were pitifully few compared to the thousands who marched to Congress in that defining moment that, since then, would be remembered as the First Quarter Storm, I saw in them what could be the coming of the Last Quarter Storm. They voiced the hidden hopes of millions across the country.

Three years ago, I had a chance meeting with one of them who was introduced to me as among those who kept watch over the Dos Palmas hostages. After he showed me the photos to prove his claim, I asked him why they killed Guillermo Sobero.

"She (Ms Arroyo) dared us," he replied, too casually for comfort. "Dare" is the closest I can think of for that word in Bahasa Sug, a language so rich in the nuances of its synonyms, so much gets lost in translation.

That "dare" must have been when she gave that unfortunate "I will crush you" speech directed at the Abu Sayyaf, with matching school-girl gestures.

"So answering her dare was more important to you than the millions you could possibly have gotten in ransom for Sobero?"

"Of course," he replied almost instantly. "Just think, a woman, a very small woman, daring us! Erap (ousted President Joseph Estrada) is not that stupid, not even the commander of Southcom is that stupid, because we had the hostages!"

To Senate President Franklin Drilon and to all the honorable senators of the land, you who are our legitimate representatives, who were voted into office by a national electorate, though few in numbers, you remain our only protectors against an illegitimate and oppressive dictatorship.

As others have been coopted with bribes and promises of bribes, may you stand as firm and as defiant as your sons and daughters last Thursday in cutting up Ms Arroyo's congressional justice committee's version of the anti-terrorism bill, and craft one that cannot be used against our youth when they want to cross Mendiola.

A law like that in the hands of one who is in constant mortal fear of being ousted from office—because she has been found to have no legitimate claim to it, and because the Senate keeps on uncovering venalities in her administration—would be like giving a naughty child a can of gasoline and a lighter to play with.

But more than this, an anti-terrorism law—as drafted by Ms Arroyo's allies—will not minimize, much less eradicate terrorism in our midst; it will inspire it.

Because as many as those who are caught and jailed, as many will take their place in the front lines, more defiant, more determined to fight oppression. You cannot strike fear in the hearts of those who can as readily kill as they are willing to be killed in the pursuit of their aims. You cannot dare an invisible enemy who holds the hostages.

For we, especially in Mindanao, are in a very real sense, the hostages held by of the terrorists in our midst, mingling with us, striking in the most unexpected places at the most unexpected moments; paralyzing us in state of "overcautiousness," rendering us unable to live our lives as we normally, let alone ideally, should.

And worse, we are held hostage by fear itself, and the sum of all our fears is Ms Arroyo herself.

* * *

Comments to rubaiyat19@yahoo.com

Scorched-earth governance

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

IN "THE SPIRIT OF THE LAWS," MONTESQUIEU wrote, "it is likewise a shocking abuse to give the appellation of high treason to an action that does not deserve it. By an imperial law it was decreed that those who call in question the prince's judgment ... should be prosecuted as guilty of sacrilege. Surely it was the cabinet council and the prince's favorites who invented the crime. By another law, it was determined that whosoever made any attempt to injure the ministers and officers belonging to the sovereign should be deemed guilty of high treason, as if he had attempted to injure the sovereign himself. This law is owing to two princes remarkable for their weakness—princes who were led by their ministers as flocks by shepherds; princes who were slaves in the palace, children in the council, strangers to the army; princes, in fine, who preserved their authority only by giving it away every day."

There are those who admire the President for displaying what they think is strength; and I do not doubt that the Chief Executive considers herself a strong person—both in terms of will and intellect. But the political reality is, she is weak; and her weakness is daily demonstrated by the means she uses to show strength. As she threatens her opponents with the Penal Code, she ignores allies threatening to secede from the Republic. Indeed, the provisions on inciting to sedition should have been applied swiftly and without mercy, for unlike the man on the street, those allies are public officials who have sworn to uphold the Republic. But she has no choice but to be selective about the application of the law because she needs them to thwart her enemies.

Taking a cue from Montesquieu, the President has embarked on a policy of condemning as treasonous those opposed to her for being part of a "conspiracy" to expose her involvement in the 2004 electoral fraud or in efforts to cover up that fraud, including her tentative and, ultimately, unsatisfactory steps to make herself accountable to the public. It is a sign of weakness that she dared not speak in a forthright manner to the citizenry, and then reacted furiously when those within her official family who had encouraged her to come clean demonstrated their disgust over her lack of both moral and political courage. She embarked on a vendetta against supporters who, she now believes, had turned traitor to her; when the ones betrayed were those who had clung to the hope that the President was willing to redeem herself.

Then the President, obviously not inclined to relinquish her office—when it became clear that the opposition to her was fractured, and a lifeline was offered to her in exchange for her prematurely terminating her term, at least not on the terms of her enemies but instead, according to a timeline set by opportunistic allies—decided to gamble on using every means to derail the process of impeachment, on the calculation (eventually proven correct) that it would be better to anger the people now, rather than stoke their wrath by allowing the articles of impeachment to reach the Senate. Having denied the public and the Senate a trial, she then lashed out at the Senate, when it insisted on continuing investigations it knew would be popular and, more importantly, necessary, in the resolution of the crisis of her legitimacy.

She has denounced—and continues to denounce—the detention for contempt of a member of her Cabinet as an act tantamount to treason, as part of a conspiracy to inflict harm on the President, by proxy or through her alter egos. And yet she knows fully well that every president's alter egos have been subjected to far worse treatment every time the budget needs to be defended before either chamber of Congress: and, let it be noted that her national security adviser, with curious self-confidence, went to the hearing without bringing with him, relying upon, and using a counsel. The President takes the errors of her followers, not as a sign of the weakness of the executive team she has put together, but instead, as the manifestations of a diabolical plot. And she tells the people that what she stands for is the defense of the State, the survival of responsible government, and the one, remaining hope, with herself as its personification, of a strong leadership and a healthy State.

Clearly, though, what she personifies is a government increasingly isolated from public opinion, a State that cannot be strong because its survival depends on the selective application of the laws meant to ensure its survival; and a government willing to ignore the fundamentals of democratic government in order to somehow secure its temporary survival. The Chief Executive, then, is engaged neither in statesmanship nor reform. She is hell-bent on survival at all costs; she is obsessed with identifying every means to sow division and maximize fear; she cannot lead, at least in the positive sense, but she can destroy. She has instituted a scorched-earth policy in order to portray herself as strong.

If every lie has a kernel of truth, then the truth at the heart of the lie—that the administration continues to govern, and effectively at that—is that the President is governing according to the only means she knows how: not according to a vision but to day-to-day, selfish considerations. Therefore, her presidency isn't one conducive to a fruitful, productive Philippines, but to a sterile, bankrupt state.

* * *

Comments welcome at www.quezon.ph/blog

New Orleans in Manila

COMMENTARY

Denis Murphy

AMERICANS WERE DEEPLY SHOCKED BY THE PHYSICAL and moral chaos they saw on TV as Hurricane Katrina overwhelmed New Orleans. I was in New York then. A woman told me, "It's like a Third World disaster." I didn't say anything to her, but I thought the conduct of the people in New Orleans, rich and poor, was far more disgraceful, and more criminal, than anything I had ever seen in disasters in Asia, including last year's landslides in Infanta and the tsunamis. Hurricane Katrina revealed deep flaws in US urban communities. We have been fortunate, things like that hadn't happened in Manila, I thought then.

Poor people in Infanta took care of each other. Even in Aceh, the region hardest hit by a tsunami, the poor people's response was positive, according to NGO workers we meet with regularly. Not in New Orleans. Poor people got to shelters, then sat and complained that nothing was being done for them, which was true; but there were things they could have done themselves for themselves. People could have shared water. They could have tried to stop the gang rapes. Old people died unattended and unmourned in the midst of hundreds of people in the Superdome. There could have been some prayer service for the dead; the bodies could have been removed.

The well-off people evacuated New Orleans as fast as they could. They had cars; money and places to go, and they gave no thought to the hundreds of thousands of poor people, mostly black, who were left behind. Neither did government. Nurses and doctors abandoned nursing homes for the elderly. In one old age home, 164 old people were found dead when the rescuers finally entered the city. They had drowned or suffocated or suffered heart attacks. Poor people robbed and terrified other poor people; gangs raped, and shot at police and aid workers. Instead of the cooperation that exists in Asia among people in times of disaster, there was the jungle.

Still there were heroes: at another old age nursing home, the medical staff risked their lives to stay and take care of their patients; and in those homes no one died. Overall, New Orleans saw a frightening breakdown in social morality. The breakdown had built up for centuries from the first days of slavery in the city.

When I was in New York, I thought we were lucky in Asia and the Philippines to be spared such behavior, but back now in Manila I wonder if urban society here is not evolving toward something very similar. Commentators trace the social problems in New Orleans to racism. People here are not racist, but have their own special forms of neglect, disdain, bias and fear of the poor, and the result may be the same.

Racism was singled out as a cause of the moral breakdown in New Orleans. Paul Krugman writing in the New York Times, Sept. 18, said Americans are less sympathetic to their poor than the Europeans are, because Americans identify poverty with the blacks, whom they neither understand nor particularly care for:

"And who can honestly deny that race is a major reason America treats its poor more harshly than any other advanced country? To put it crudely: a middle-class European, thinking about the poor, says to himself, 'There but for the grace of God go I.' A middle-class American is all too likely to think, perhaps without admitting it to himself, 'Why should I be taxed to support those people?'

"Above all, race-based hostility to the idea of helping the poor created an environment in which a political movement hostile to government aid in general could flourish."

If racism lies at the roots of America's neglect of its poor, what are the roots of our neglect and lack of compassion for our own poor? That such neglect exists can't be doubted. The rich and well-off haven't fled Manila leaving the poor behind in a natural disaster, but they have effectively abandoned the poor to a life of poverty at the margins of Philippine society, without realistic hope for a better future. Only two out of 10 young poor boys and girls finish high school, which is the minimum level of education needed for a good-enough chance of living a decent life in our modern world; even security guards are expected to be high school graduates. There's no future without education, yet education standards drop year by year; the fact is well publicized in the media, yet nothing substantial is done. What will happen to the 80 percent of young poor people who don't graduate? Similar ominous patterns can be found in matters of food, health, employment and basic services. The urban barangay system has eroded efforts to empower the urban poor. The poor may have less political influence than ever.

Why do we neglect the poor? It is a mystery in this Christian nation—where there are only minor racial and ethnic differences—why the neglect is so severe. Indeed, the well-off here are aware they neglect the poor and are responsible in great part for their poverty, according to the findings of the same IPC study mentioned above (as yet an unpublished study of Baseco and Payatas).

We are swiftly creating a permanent poor underclass. This state of affairs was expressed starkly by one poor mother in an interview done for the Institute of Philippine Culture: "My parents were poor, I'm poor and my children will be poor. That's the way it is." We have not yet reached the tipping point where most poor people feel that way and slip into hopelessness, when criminal elements take over the poor communities, and there is violence, fear, drugs and general anarchy. The violence and other evils will exist among the poor themselves. The wounded will attack the wounded and the weak will take advantage of the weak, as in New Orleans.

We are already seeing this happen in Latin America where, in poor communities, drugs, crime and violence have overpowered all other institutions in the areas, including schools, independent neighborhood associations, even Church parish councils.

We can see the future, but this time the future is not working. What happens in Latin America can happen here in 10 years. Like New Orleans, Latin America gives a picture of a society unraveling, returning—after centuries of civilization—to the wild state. Latin America cities give hints of what life could become in our poor areas. We have only a few more years left to do better for our poor.

Denis Murphy works with the Urban Poor Associates.

THEY SAID

Nobody

"You're living a half-life, being stateless. You can't move forward or backward. You're stuck because you're a nobody and don't belong anywhere or to anyone, therefore, no one has to deal with you."

—Vietnamese-Australian lawyer Hoi Trinh who has been helping refugees for eight years

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Of dogs and policemen

HOW FOOLISH FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Eduardo Ermita to liken the policeman to a dog which doesn't bite unless it is kicked. The comparison is like confusing murder with an accident. The secretary must be aware that a dog is an irrational being; on the other hand, a policeman is rational and logical. This is Philosophy 101. The violence that is committed by irrational beings is understandable and may be explained as instinctive. The violence of rational beings can never be justified.

I presume that the Philippine National Police Academy teaches its students the rules of engagement, maximum tolerance and the ethical and legal issues arising from hitting an arrested, totally helpless peaceful protester on the face.

Ermita said he is not going to tolerate unreasonable police action against street protesters. If he is really sincere, he should have the policeman who punched the poor protester on the face (this was seen on TV) disciplined and punished.

Lastly, the government's policy of calibrated preemptive response alarms me. I thought that the police are duty-bound to protect the people, not just the President. I also thought that civilian authority is superior to the military. I also thought Ermita was a logical and rational being. By likening the policeman to a dog, the honorable secretary—I am afraid—has proven me wrong.

—RALP RALP GAERLAN, par_slim@yahoo.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LETTERS

Accident waiting to happen?

I WOULD LIKE TO BRING TO THE attention of the concerned authorities the roadworks outside Laura Subdivision in Commonwealth Avenue, which the Department of Public Works and Highways and the Quezon City Mayor's Office started in late August and abandoned sometime in September.

The pathetic excuse for stopping the project was the onset of the rainy season. I'm just curious if the contractor is a Filipino or, at least, a resident of the Philippines, who should therefore be familiar with the climate in this country. If the rain was going to be a problem, then why did they start the project during the wet months?

This lack of forward planning has been causing major inconvenience to the thousands of residents of Laura Subdivision and nearby areas. Vehicle owners are forced to walk through the narrowest of lanes and soak their feet in inches of sticky mud even after just a short downpour.

It is a major accident waiting to happen, so I hope something can be done with this problem ASAP.

—HANS RU MARISTELA, noyfb@pacific.net.sg

Nothing said on General Gudani

THIS REFERS TO THE INQUIRER'S editorial last Oct. 3, titled "Talk, or else." The editorial stated: "Santiago prides herself on applying intellectual rigor to affairs of state; she herself had pointed out that Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani's allegations about First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo's conveying half a billion pesos in mysterious funds by helicopter last year were mere hearsay and not to be believed. Why should we believe her now?"

This statement is erroneous because Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago never said anything on record about Gudani. She was never interviewed by the media about him. She did not even attend the Senate hearing last Sept. 28 on the wiretapping issue.

This factual error puts into question the accuracy of the whole editorial.

Further, please pass on to the writer of the editorial that under the Rules of Court, there are exceptions to the hearsay rule, such as the *res gestae* exception. Our Supreme Court has defined *res gestae* as statements made by spectators to a crime immediately before, during, or immediately after the commission of the crime, when the circumstances are such that the statements were made as a spontaneous reaction inspired by the excitement of the occasion.

All the requisites of *res gestae* are present in this case:

1. The principal act—the plot to unseat President Macapagal-Arroyo by Oct. 15 by a coup d'etat or, failing that, her physical removal—constitutes a startling concurrence.

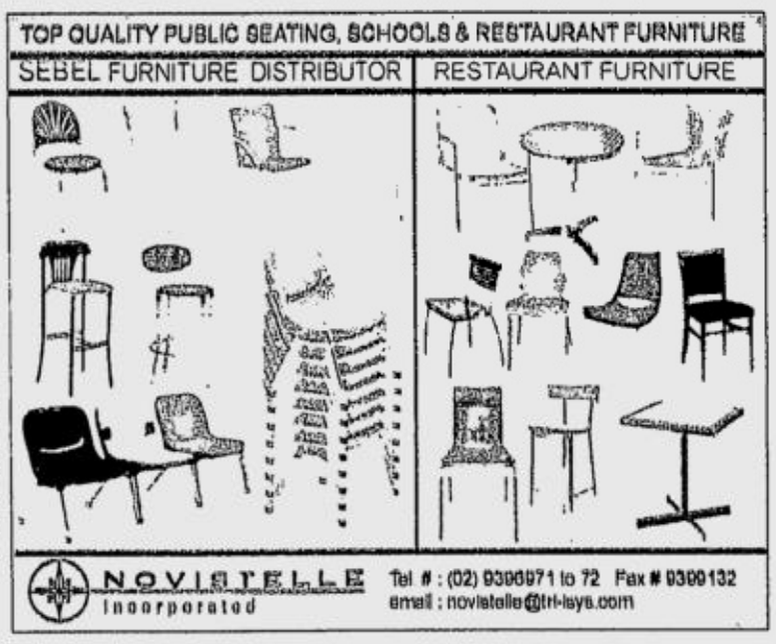
2. The statement was spontaneous and was made immediately prior to the principal act.

3. The statement concerned the alleged power grab and its immediately attending circumstances.

Hence, the relative of Sen. Franklin Drilon is a *res gestae* witness, meaning that she was a witness to an event, a continuing criminal conspiracy. Senator Santiago chose to disclose to the public the statements made by the Drilon relative because these statements aid in developing a full disclosure of the facts surrounding the alleged plan to grab power.

—DENNIS ESCALONA LEGASPI, media relations officer, Office of Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Rm. 518, Senate of the Philippines, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City

We thought we heard Senator Santiago make the hearsay characterization in a TV interview. But we cannot find the footage in question. It may well be that we conflated Senator Santiago's previous statements on the hearsay quality of other witnesses, notably Captain Mendoza and the jueteng operators, with General Gudani's testimony. It is important to note that on previous occasions, Senator Santiago has in fact lectured on the perils of listening to hearsay. For that reason, the point in that particular argument raised by the editorial remains valid: We believe the senator treats "hearsay" testimony differently, depending on whether or not it is favorable to her ally, the President.—Ed.



Brilliant victory

THE PROPOSAL TO CONVERT THE COUNTRY'S outstanding debt into equity is a brilliant idea. And hopefully it will be approved by our lenders. Such a proposal, if ever it pushes through, will greatly benefit our country. I'd like to commend Speaker Jose de Venecia for that idea. It is good to note that despite the recent political crisis, our congressmen still spend time to come up with such positive proposals.

The Freedom from Debt Coalition should reconsider its opposition to the Speaker's debt-for-equity proposal.

As the editorial "Conversion" (PDI, 9/19/05) pointed out, international finance is unforgiving. It doesn't care about morality issues in debt. And it shouldn't. I hope the FDC realizes that the approval of the debt-for-equity scheme would be a huge victory for everyone. It should just count the winnings.

—RONALD CAGAPE, ronald.cagape@equitablepcib.com

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3 soldiers slain in NPA attack in Cebu

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—THREE SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AFTER ABOUT 30 communist rebels attacked a military detachment in a hinterland village of Tuburan, Cebu on Saturday afternoon.

Lt. Col. Jefferson Omandam, Armed Forces Central Command spokesperson, confirmed the death of three soldiers but refused to divulge their names because their families had yet to be informed of what happened.

But Tuburan police chief Senior Insp. Crisanto Duque identified those killed as Sgt. Rolando Luna, commander of the detachment in Barangay Sumon, Tuburan, about 96.7 km northwest of Cebu City.

The two others, he said, were Private First Class Bobby O. Licono and Joseph Bingil.

Duque said three other soldiers and a civilian were able to escape unharmed when the New People's Army (NPA) rebels attacked the 78th Infantry Battalion detachment.

He identified them as Pfc. Roque Dagondon and a certain Pfc. Meroya and his wife Leah. The other soldier was not identified.

He said the rebels fled with at least five M14 and three M16 rifles, several ammunitions and the soldiers' belongings.

Omandam said he was told that the soldiers suffered bullet wounds in their bodies and heads from .45-caliber pistols.

He said the soldiers belonged to the Special Operations Team under the 78th IB's Charlie Company who were trained, not in combat operations, but in civil relations.

The soldiers were deployed in Tuburan to conduct "non-combat" missions such as dialogues with residents and medical missions after the military had assessed that the NPA strength in the town was "manageable," he said.

This was the first time in recent years that the rebels raided a military detachment in Cebu.

Cebu's mid-north area, where Tuburan is located, was considered a haven of the communist rebels in the 1980s up to the early 1990s.

According to Duque, Dagondon was at the market when the rebels arrived, fired several warning shots and told the people to drop on the ground.

Duque said Dagondon immediately took off his military jacket and tried to go back to the detachment, about 15 meters from the market, to inform his fellow soldiers about the presence of the rebels and to get his firearm. He, however, noticed that the rebels were already there.

Dagondon decided to flee when the rebels saw him and fired at him. He boarded a rented motorcycle and went to the Tuburan police station at the town proper, about 15 km from Barangay Sumon.

Last week, NPA rebels overran the municipal police station in Talocogon, Agusan del Sur.

The attack happened a day after five soldiers and three civilians were killed when ambushed by communist rebels in Sapang Dalaga town in Misamis Occidental.

Supt. Samuel Yordan, police chief for Agusan del Sur, said around 60 rebels, backed with three M60 machine guns, pounded their way to the station in Barangay Poblacion, which was manned only by five policemen at around 7:15 p.m.

Although outnumbered, Yordan said his men managed to return fire.

"One of my men was wounded after trading fire with the rebels," Yordan said.

The rebels took with them four M16 Armalite rifles and a radio transmitter. *With reports from Franklin A. Caliguid and Hernan P. dela Cruz, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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Girl's device converts rice husk into fuel

BAGUIO CITY—A GOVERNMENT science fair has given one of its top prizes to an elementary school student experiment that uses rice husk as a fuel source.

Yael Rose Bibal's "carbonizer" will be entered in a regional science fair competition in December.

Bibal, 12, said her device is composed of recycled milk cans and a makeshift chimney, which acts as a heat conductor to turn *palay* husk into small charcoal bricks.

A sustained amount of heat breaks down most organic substances into its basic carbon element. The ordinary charcoal is the "carbonized" byproduct of wood.

But it was the variety of possible uses that can be turned out of Bibal's bricks that caught the attention of the Department of Science and Technology during the math and science fair at La Trinidad, Benguet last week. The fair was jointly sponsored by the DOST and the Department of Education.

Bibal said charcoal bricks fuel ordinary stoves and are useful fertilizer because of its organic base. She said some farmers also use charcoal bricks to cure diarrhea among their pigs.

Ideally, she said, the heat from a large-scale model of her "carbonizer" could even be trapped and used to generate electricity.

YAEL Rose Bibal shows off her charcoal brickette, which she generated from two tin cans and a single page of newspaper.
VINCE CABREZA/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

But she said what she intended to prove is that ordinary farmers can make economical use of discarded rice peelings.

Bibal said she helps her parents cook and knows how expensive cooking has become as the price of liquefied petroleum gas continues to increase.

She said her decision to tackle the problem of alternative fuels was triggered by her shrinking allowance, and not by any active crusade in school.

Although the world oil crisis is an occasional classroom topic at Shekinah Education Center in La Trinidad, Bibal said she and her friends have not championed any causes until the crisis affected their lifestyles.

Bibal was exposed to the Cordillera's poverty because of stories of her grandfather, the late Ibaloi historian and artist Geoffrey Carantes, said her father, Roger.

Benguet is Metro Manila's major source of vegetables, although bad roads and the soil deterioration due to use of chemical fertilizers have not helped the industry grow here.

Roger said their family's one-year stay in Capiz helped his daughter understand the life of a rice farmer.

"Farmers throw away the *palay* husk on the highways but I knew there could be use for them," she said.

Taking a page from her encyclopedia, Bibal said she was testing established facts about heat conduction when she asked her father to tie together several cans with wire to build a chimney.

Burning a page of the INQUIRER, Bibal said she heated up the cans and then placed a two-foot high pile of *palay* husks around them. She watched them burn slowly for an hour.

The heat is not strong enough to burn the pile into ashes, she said. Instead, the slow heat "carbonized" the *palay* peelings and fused them into blocks that can store heat when put in an open flame. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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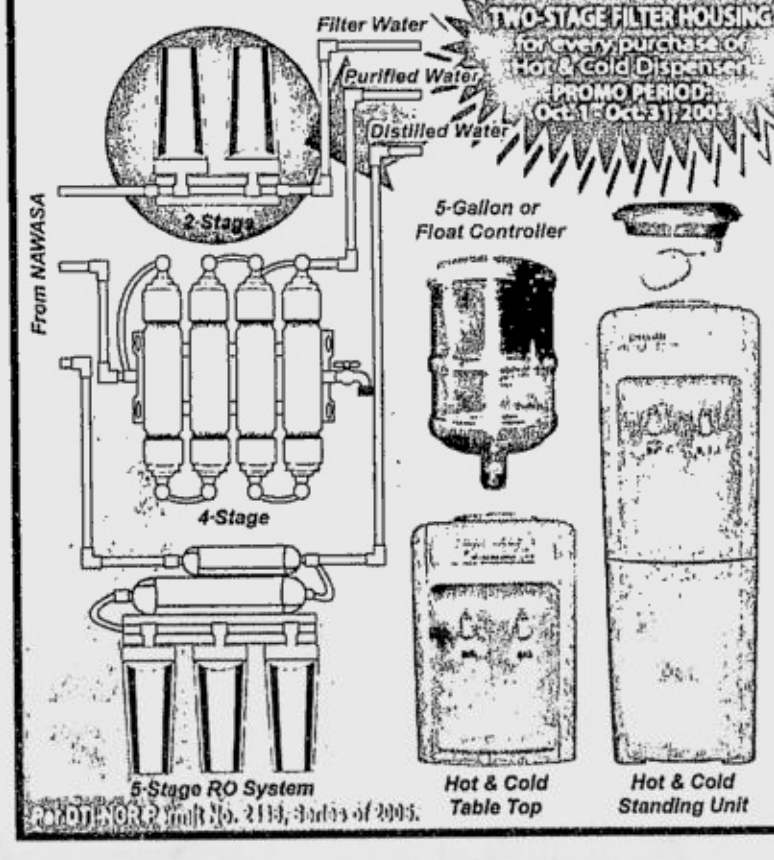

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Mayor, DepEd exec clash over elementary school

By Delmar Cariño
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BOKOD, BENGUET—MAYOR Raymundo Celino and officials of the Department of Education in Benguet are locked in a fight over an elementary school located outside the political responsibility of the province.

Celino said he will order the dismantling of the Naswak Elementary School building located at Barangay Ekip in December since it was built on a lot that is part of nearby Kayapa, Nueva Vizcaya.

Power

"I will remove the school even if I [am] sued. I will use the materials [from the demolished building] instead to build another school in my town," Celino said on Sunday.

But Dr. Mary Namuhe, Benguet division schools superintendent, said only DepEd has the power to end a public school's operation.

Namuhe said DepEd has the responsibility to continue the school's operation until it is officially transferred to Nueva Vizcaya.

The DepEd, she said, is bound to provide education to the students, whether it is situated in Bokod or Kayapa.

Defiance

Celino, however, said the DepEd's decision was an act of defiance of local authorities.

"The DepEd has no legal basis in continuing to run the school. It has no authority to say that Sitio Naswak is within Bokod since the declaration of boundaries is supposed to be a political function," he said.

He said Naswak was never a part of Bokod because the town's cadastral map showed that it belongs to Kayapa.

Caught in the clash is Gloria Suayan, the town's school supervisor and the coordinating principal of Naswak.

Teachers

Celino earlier asked Suayan why the DepEd's volunteer teachers were still serving at the school.

Naswak has 60 students from Grades 1 to 6. It has three volunteer teachers since the teaching positions that would be funded by the national budget have yet to be approved.

In a letter to Suayan, Celino raised the propriety of assigning voluntary teachers when the school should already be transferred to Nueva Vizcaya.

Reassignment

Celino told Suayan that the teachers must be reassigned to fill in five positions in the town's other elementary schools.

He said in case Suayan referred the matter to Namuhe, she must do it soon because "we want to know the morality of assigning teachers outside of our town to the great prejudice of our own school children who need teachers."

But Namuhe cautioned Suayan from following Celino's order to remove the teachers since only the DepEd could order their reassignment.

WTO TALKS IN HONG KONG

Protect veggie industry, leaders urge

LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET—THE PROVINCE'S vegetable industry leaders have joined calls for the government's trade negotiators to come up with a bold stance that would push a nationalist economic policy in the World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong this December.

They said the conference could provide the best venue for the vegetable industry, together with other domestic industries, to make a strong statement on the clamor of local farmers to adopt protectionist measures for vegetables under a free trade system.

The Fair Trade Alliance, a coalition of nongovernment organizations, business and agricultural leaders, has urged the government to convene a multisectoral meeting and draw a common development agenda to be presented in Hong Kong.

In a letter to President Macapagal-Arroyo on Sept. 28, former Sen. Wigberto Tañada, FTA lead convenor, said the government's official policy against "unbridled globalization" needs to be defined in clean economic terms that would demand safeguard mechanisms and tariff protection for local industries.

Benguet Board Member John Kim, the provincial board's committee chair on agriculture, said the Hong Kong conference aims to draw up a consensus on a new round of trade liberalization measures among WTO member-countries in agriculture, industry, services and intellectual property rights.

"For sure, the result of the discussions would impact on the future of the local vegetable industry," Kim told the INQUIRER.

"If the government could not obtain favorable concessions to protect our local economy, then our farmers will soon wake up to find their vegetables rotting due to the entry of imported products," he said.

The FTA is correct, Kim said, when it assailed the government for failing to come up with a clear position on various trade issues that would be calendared for discussion in the Hong Kong meeting.

He said the plight of the local vegetable industry might get lost or forgotten when the conference wraps up its points of agreement due to the absence of a concrete agricultural agenda on the part of the country's negotiators. *Delmar Cariño, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

CHRISTMAS PREPARATION BING GONZALES/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU
With only 68 days before Christmas, lantern makers from Pampanga start assembling their items at their store in Bangkal, Davao City.

SC voids Isabela mayor's poll victory

By Villamor Visaya Jr.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

ILAGAN, ISABELA—THE SUPREME Court has annulled the proclamation of Mayor Raymond Espidol of Ramon town after upholding the order of the Commission on Elections that voided his election victory.

The Comelec said the members of the municipal board of canvassers in Ramon "acted under duress, intimidation and threats" when they proclaimed Espidol.

"All told, the Comelec en banc did not commit grave abuse of discretion in affirming in toto the resolution of the second division annulling the proclamation of Espidol," said the SC's Oct. 11 decision on the petition for certiorari and prohibition filed by Espidol against the Comelec, the municipal board of canvassers and losing mayoral candidate Wilfredo Tabag.

In a phone interview, Espidol said he has yet to receive a copy of the decision. He said he would discuss with his lawyer their next move following the high court's order.

Espidol (Lakas-CMD) obtained 8,647 votes while his closest rival, Tabag (PDP-Laban), obtained 6,635 votes.

But Tabag filed a motion before the Comelec to annul Espidol's proclamation and restrain him from assuming the duties and functions of a mayor.

The SC decision also revoked the status quo order in the town, paving the way for Vice Mayor Mercedes Vizcarra to assume as acting mayor.

The SC said there was a discrepancy between the number of votes cast for the mayoral candidates and the number of registered voters who actually voted.

It said that upon verification of the statement of votes, the Comelec second division discovered that the number of those who actually voted was 17,207 while the number of votes cast for the mayoral candidates was 18,065.

"Any error in the statement of votes would affect the proclamation made on the basis thereof. The true will of the electorate may thus be not fully and faithfully reflected by the proclamation," it said.

The SC gave credence to a memorandum of election officer Agripino de Guzman, municipal board canvassing chair, who said he "hastily finished" the canvassing and proclaimed Espidol and other winners due to threats and intimidation.

The Comelec order earlier said the "discrepancy may not overturn the alleged lead of [Espidol] from [Tabag] but such figure tells of the fact that a deliberate attempt to pad one's votes may have transpired, and the commission cannot just close its eyes to this travesty of the integrity of the electoral process."

City acts to curb smoking

LEGAZPI CITY—A "SMOKE-FREE Legazpi," is the newest battle cry galvanizing all sectors from the city so the Albay capital would become a healthful environment.

Over the past months, billboards and other signages in transportation terminals, commercial establishments, government and private offices and stickers in public conveyances such as buses, jeeps and tricycles have sprouted cautioning the citizens against the hazards of tobacco smoking.

"On the first week of September, Legazpeños became wary of lighting a cigarette in public places when the city started to enforce ordinance 0006-2005 regulating the use, sale, distribution and advertisements of tobacco products," said Mayor Noel E. Rosal.

Rose Olarte Orbita, chair of the Smoke-Free Committee and representative of the Adventist's Community Services, said the ordinance has a "heart for the minors" as it makes it unlawful for those under 18 years old to sell or buy tobacco products.

Establishments selling tobacco products are required to post statements to this effect.

She said a unique feature of the "Legazpi Smoke-Free" campaign is the smoking cessation program whereby violators are given lectures and counseling.

Telephone counselors-volunteers also man the "Smoke-Free Hotline" and the "Friends on Line" for those who wish to kick the habit.

Marlene Manaya, City Social Welfare and Development Officer, said nongovernment groups, schools and city departments as well as law enforcement teams pooled their resources and regularly meet to ensure information dissemination and enforcement of the ordinance.

"The Albay Medical Society and the Rotary supported the campaign through production of 'no smoking' stickers for distribution to the public," added Manaya.

The ordinance prohibits smoking in public places such as hospitals, schools, churches, shopping malls, buildings, movie houses, hotels, restaurants, parks, public transportation terminals and other enclosed public and private buildings and areas.

"I have given night club owners three months until December to comply with this provision," said Rosal.

The ordinance provides penalties for smoking in airplanes, ships, buses, light rail transits, jeepneys, taxis, tricycles, *padyaks* and other public conveyances.

A P500 fine is imposed for a first-time offense, P1,000 or a smoking cessation counseling for the second offense, and P5,000 and a smoking cessation counseling for the third and subsequent offenses.

Rosal approved the ordinance on May 12. *Gina V. Rodriguez, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

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Cebu tightens port security for terror attacks

By Jolene R. Bulambot
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—SECURITY MEASURES were beefed up at the Cebu International Port (CIP) following intelligence reports that Cebu would likely be a target of underwater bomb attacks by terrorist groups.

Capt. Elson Hermogino, Philippine Coast Guard in Central and Eastern Visayas District commander, said they would coordinate with the military and the police to secure the ports and thwart any terrorist attempt.

"For the Coast Guard, we really don't have the technical capability but with the help and coordination of the military and police, we can counter that," Hermogino told the INQUIRER.

"Aside from the harbor patrol, we are also checking the physical activities in the waterside area of the port," he added.

Hermogino said that based on the intelligence report, the target of the underwater bomb attacks were the military, naval and commercial vessels.

He, however, declined to give details on the report, especially which group would most likely stage the plan.

Hermogino, however, said the intelligence report was three-months old and came from military sources.

"The terror alert has been there for about a year already after the bombings in Basilan. What we got now is a new intelligence report stating that the terrorist groups are training their men to possess the capability to undertake underwater bomb attack," he said.

He added that terrorists could place the bombs with detonated devices on the hull of the target vessels.

Armed Forces chief of staff Lt. Gen. Generoso Senga said intelligence operatives had been instructed to continuously monitor reported trainings of Jemaah Islamiyah bombers in Mindanao.

Senga told reporters here on Wednesday that while these trainings had happened in the past, it was better to assume that these activities had continued so the military could better prepare for any eventuality.

"They have terrorist intentions. They can only execute their terrorist intentions if they will prepare for it. Our assumption is that they are training. It is better that we assume that they have some evil plans so we can always be prepared," he said.

"What is important is that our forces are vigilant about all these. We are watching continuously. We are monitoring continuously. Our instructions are very clear to our operatives in our intelligence units that we should not leave any stones unturned," said Senga, who was in Cebu to visit Camp Lapulapu, the Central Command headquarter.

Hermogino said they would conduct random harbor patrols in the port area to detect unauthorized vessel docking at the CIP.

He said they also urged ship owners to enhance their security measures such as deploying more bomb-sniffing dogs in the ports and on vessels.

"There is a general report that ports are being used by terrorist groups as their transit points but we had no confirmation yet if Cebu is indeed one of those they used. Still, we are addressing the report," he said.

Capt. Rolando Ricafrente, commanding officer of BRP Pampanga, said they have tightened security within the port area.

BRP Pampanga, an $18-million facility engaged in search-and-rescue operations, is stationed at Pier 1 behind the Malacañang sa Sugbo, the official residence of the President in Cebu.

Ricafrente said they could help detect incoming vessels through its automatic radar plotting aid.

"Once the military and police coordinate with us, we can exchange information. If we are asked to monitor any movements in the sea, we can do that and even help respond if the need arises," he said.

Presidential Adviser for Central Visayas Felix Guanzon, who holds office at the Malacañang sa Sugbo, said he might ask the Cebu Ports Authority to install X-ray machines at the port area.

Security should be an utmost priority at the CIP, being a vital government structure, he added. *With a report from Connie E. Fernandez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

ROUNDUP

Suspects in fake money held

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Police arrested seven suspected members of a counterfeit money syndicate in Floridablanca, Pampanga on Monday. The suspects included an 18-year-old student and their alleged leader, Noelito de Ocampo, a resident of Caloocan City. Seized from the group were 96 pieces of fake P500 bills. Pampanga police chief Senior Supt. Leonardo Espina said the group, on board a Toyota Revo, was bound for either Bataan or Olongapo City and stopped to eat lunch and buy supplies in Floridablanca. A complaint from a storeowner to whom a fake P500 bill was paid alerted the police about the group's presence in the town.

Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Pawnshop heist

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Robbers took away at least P5 million worth of cash and jewelry from a pawnshop in Guagua town on Tuesday. Reports said the suspects also took a .45 cal. pistol from the vault of Beverly Hills Pawnshop at Barangay Sto. Niño in Guagua. Police said the suspects entered the pawnshop by sawing off the steel grills and destroying the padlocks of a window in the shop. The suspects opened the shop's vault using acetylene torches, police said.

Jun Malig, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Most wanted man held

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Police on Monday arrested the most wanted robber in Batangas shortly after the suspect allegedly held up a gasoline station and used a bicycle to flee. Calabarzon police director Chief Supt. Jesus Verzosa said Christopher Bengoa, 26, an alleged member of a notorious syndicate in Tanauan City, was arrested at his residence in Barangay San Antonio in Sto. Tomas, Batangas at about 3 p.m. Bengoa is facing several robbery charges before the Tanauan Regional Trial Court, Verzosa said.

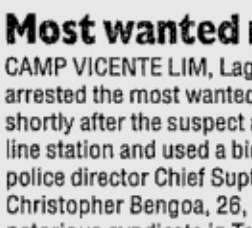
Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Leftist leader slain

LUCENA CITY—A leader of the militant party-list group Anakpawis was killed in Barangay Calilayan, Unisan, Quezon on Tuesday. Arman Albarillo, Bayan-Southern Tagalog secretary general, said Ponciano Silva, 54, Anakpawis Unisan chair was gunned down by two men aboard a motorcycle while he was talking with officials of a tricycle operators and drivers association. He suffered four bullet wounds from a .45-caliber pistol. Silva is the 120th victim of political killing in the region since the start of the Arroyo administration, according to Albarillo.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Spaghetti downs 8



TABACO CITY—Eight employees of the Child Sponsorship for Community Development Inc. (CSCDI) based in this city were rushed to a hospital after eating spaghetti they bought from a vendor on Thursday. Dr. Roly Garcia, physician at the Amando Cope Memorial General Hospital, where the victims were brought, said the employees suffered dizziness and vomited after they took their snacks at about 10 a.m. He said the victims suffered from poisoning caused by salmonella, a bacteria found in the spaghetti. "Rotten food usually causes salmonella," he said.

Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Best commerce group

DAVAO CITY—The Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (DCCCII) emerged as the best chamber in the country for this year during the evaluation conducted by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "It was the third time that DCCCII bagged the award, the first was in 1996 and the second in 2003 and the 7th as best chamber in Mindanao," immediate DCCCII past president Sofronio Jucutan said in an interview. DCCCII was cited during the 31st Philippine Business Conference held from Oct. 14-16 at the Manila Hotel.

Judy Quiros, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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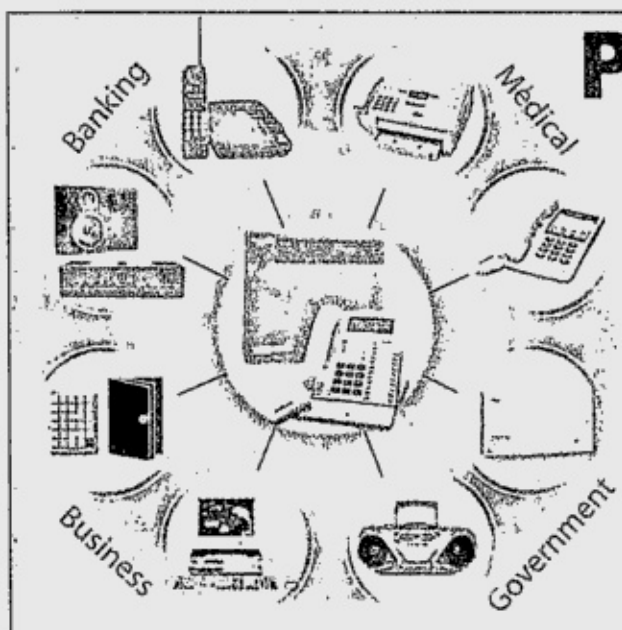

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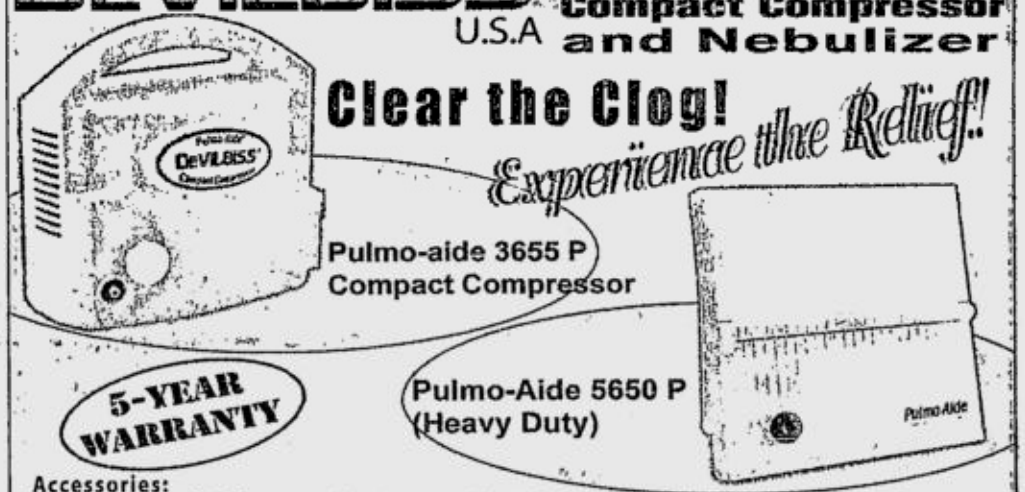

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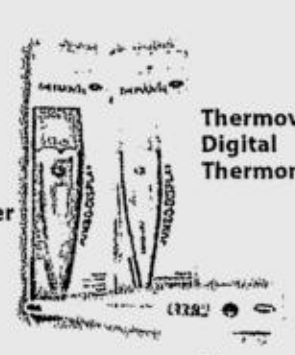

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Hunt for JI camps tops agenda ...

From page A1

ports that JI has established training camps in the southern Philippines and whether that is correct or not, we nevertheless believe we could be useful to them," Hill was quoted as saying in Australia before he left for Manila.

"In many ways our greater concern is that if safe havens are found to establish training camps for new recruits, then it becomes an even greater worry," Hill said in an interview with the Melbourne Herald Sun.

Hill arrived yesterday afternoon for a four-day visit and talks with his counterpart, Secretary Avelino Cruz Jr. He is also expected to meet with President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Earlier this month, Australian newspapers reported that Australian forces had joined in the hunt for JI militants in Mindanao.

JI is said to have ties to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

Armed Forces spokesperson Lt. Col. Buenaventura Pascual had denied that report, citing a constitutional prohibition against the participation of foreign troops in Philippine military operations unless covered by a treaty.

Expanded Australian role

Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer would neither confirm nor deny the report.

In the interview with the Sun, Hill noted that Australia had expanded its counterterrorist training with several Southeast Asian countries, including Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.

But the Philippines has received limited special forces training.

"We think we should expand that. Their (Philippines') principal partner in terms of capability growth through training has been the United States," the Sun quoted Hill as saying.

Philippines needs help

"Obviously, in the last few years, we have seen a vested interest for ourselves in contributing to improving the counterterrorist capability throughout the region. And we identified the Philippines as somewhere where we might be useful, so I'll continue those discussions," he said.

Two of the suspected ringleaders behind the recent bombings in the Indonesian tourist resort of Bali—Mohammed Top and Dr Azahari Husin—are believed to have used camps in the southern Philippines to hide.

About 20 people were killed and more than 100 wounded in the Bali blasts.

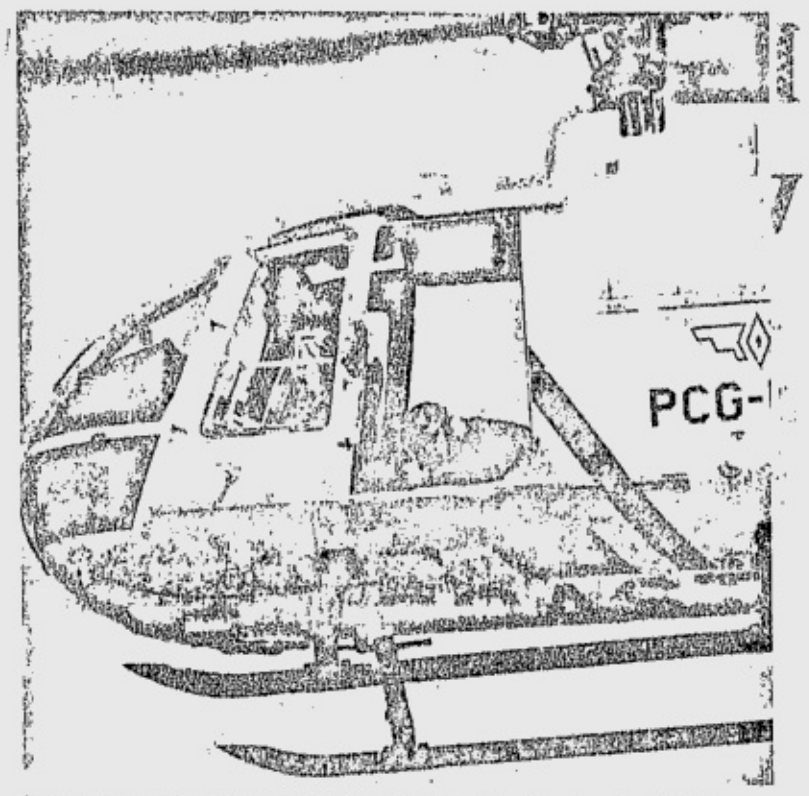
Hill said the Australian government was offering more special forces training to develop the Philippines' counterterrorist capability.

Maritime surveillance

Australian maritime surveillance aircraft could visit the Philippines later in the year to train with Filipino counterparts, he added.

He said Islamic terrorists fleeing from Indonesia to the Philippines, or moving from Malaysia to the Philippines and then Indonesia, had been of concern to the Australian government.

Hill was met at the airport by Defense Undersecretary Antonio Santos.



UNMINDFUL of the strips of tape covering their helicopter's belly, Philippine Coast Guard men conduct antiterrorist exercises over Manila Bay as part of a security alert against possible attacks. ERIK ARAZAS

GMA-Church fight looms

From page A1

Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez of Caloocan City said "the great majority of our bishops are reflecting on the situation and on what will be the goal and action that will be demanded from us."

Iñiguez said in an interview yesterday with the Church-run Radio Veritas the bishops might be forced to take action for the common good.

Tobias said the protest had drawn sympathies from Archbishops Angel Lagdameo of Jaro and Jesus Tuquib of Cagayan de Oro and Bishop Vicente Navarra of Bacolod. Similarly concerned were Archbishop Antonio Ledesma of Ipil and Bishops Chito Tagle of Imus and Leo Drona of San Pablo.

Lagdameo, incoming president of the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, on Saturday said the police dispersal was "uncalled for and objectionable."

There was still no word from Archbishop Fernando Capalla, outgoing CBCP president, and Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales.

Archbishop Oscar Cruz said Friday's dispersal was a familiar thing during the martial law regime of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

GMA unfit to govern

"The pattern of action of the administration reveals that it is either too insecure in holding on to power or too secure of its tenure for might. And the victim of these two extremes are one and the same—the people," said Cruz, a leading critic of Ms Arroyo.

"The administration is thus proving itself to be more and more unfit to govern a democratic country. It has conveniently forgotten that it was the power of a free people who once placed it in power," said Cruz.

More than the water bombardment, the bishops were angered by the apparent disrespect shown by police to the procession that uttered no political statements or carried posters or streamers but simply rosaries and two images of Mary.

"They were subjected to the indignity and ridicule (of) being the helpless targets of water cannons—in spite of all the prayers and pleadings," Cruz said.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said it appeared to him that the protesters had deliberately wanted to provoke the authorities. In a phone patch interview with reporters, Ermita questioned why the religious procession broke away from San Sebastian and headed toward Mendiola.

Ermita questioned why Guingona had to be there as well, noting that the latter, who is in his 70s, should have been resting at home instead.

Ermita also asked why Guingona was in the company of Ocampo of the leftist Bayan Muna.

Asked whether an apology was in order to Guingona, he said, "It's a pity this has to happen."

The rallyists had been allowed to mass at Plaza Miranda, where they had been granted a permit to demonstrate. They had been allowed to proceed to San Sebastian Church. But when a small group of several hundred attempted to march on Mendiola, purportedly to hold yet another Mass at San Beda chapel, police broke up the procession at nightfall.

Gathering of trapos, leftists

Television commentators said the march on Mendiola was the first to bring together "trapos," or traditional politicians, militant churchmen and left-wing groups since the "Gloriagate scandal" broke out in June allegedly showing that Ms Arroyo stole last year's election.

Ms Arroyo has adamantly denied the charge and last month escaped an impeachment attempt in Congress.

The 58-year-old President has since taken a strong hand against dissenters, announcing a get-tough stand against opponents who had vowed to bring to the streets their fight to oust Ms Arroyo. She has also banned her Cabinet secretaries from appearing in congressional inquiries which she has dismissed as nothing more than muckraking.

Like Ermita, Bunye said Mendiola had been the scene of bloody clashes and the government did not want rallies there. The two referred to the violent dispersal of farmers by police in 1987 during the administration of Corazon Aquino that left 13 people dead.

In his weekly column, Bunye said that the police would continue to "act in accordance with standard operating procedures to protect the public interest."

Senior citizens

Bunye included in his column a note purportedly from Rep. Douglas Cagas, who defended the police action and noted that "the so-called senior citizens were asking for it."

"The President need not apologize for anything," Bunye quoted Cagas' note.

Presidential political adviser Gabriel Claudio said that the incident could have been easily avoided, reminding protesters that "there were many other areas and fora they can use without violating the rights of other citizens or provoking authorities."

"We hope and pray that radical elements do not take advantage of that incident as justification to further challenge, test, provoke or taunt our law enforcers in the proper handling of rallies and other forms of protest," Claudio said.

Director Vidal Querol, Metro Manila Police chief, deplored the criticism against the police as unfair.

"Why should I apologize for what happened," Querol said. "They'd like to paint the police as bestial, but they—in their heart of hearts—knew they did not abide by the law nor did they ever have any intention of doing so," he said.

Be fair to police

"So let's be fair to the police. Do you think the police like this to happen?"

Guingona and fellow victims of the water dispersal will bring their case before the UNHCHR, said the Kilusang Makabansang Ekonomiya, a militant group led by Catholic bishops.

"This is a denunciation not only locally (but also) internationally," said Guingona, 77, who also served as foreign affairs secretary under Ms Arroyo, in a press conference.

"The prayer rally was a legitimate exercise of one's freedom of religion, expression and peaceful assembly," the KME said in a statement.

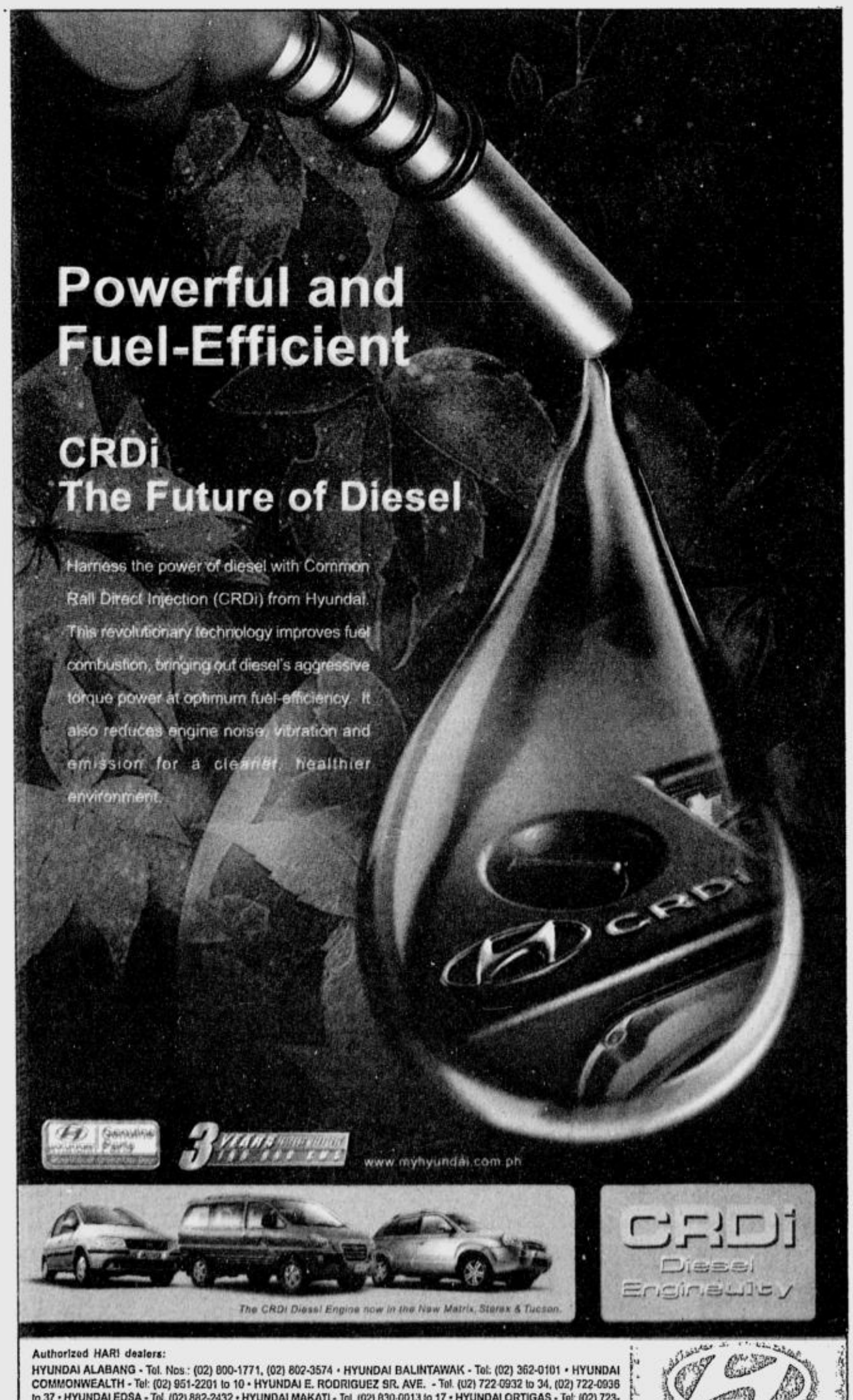
"If they think we had it coming, they don't know where they are going," Guingona said. "You're going to self-destruction!"

Palace will run out of police

Guingona also vented his ire on Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez, Ms Arroyo's staunch and sardonic defender who said that the government had every right to use water cannons.

"I hope next time, he goes there (the rallies) and I will confront him," he said. Guingona and the KME have set another gathering at the San Beda chapel on Thursday.

Said Ocampo: "The people will not make the Palace rest over its illegal proclamation of Mendiola as a no-rally zone ... they will run out of policemen and firemen." *With reports from Michael Lim Ubac, Luige A. del Puerto, TJ Burgonio, Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*



INQUIRER Platinum Code

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 20 PLATINUM ANNIVERSARY

What Vero means for an emergency drug or tools for device into the body in a medical operation?

Find the answer to the question in the highlighted letters above. Highlighted letters may be used more than once. Text in your answer to 29768* for SMART, Globe, and Sun Cellular subscribers and get a chance to win in the weekly or grand draws!

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INQUIRER

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Biazon seeks probe of big weapons shipment in Luzon

From page A1

with former US Charge d'Affaires Joseph Mussomeli's report that a civilian group was ready to protect Ms Arroyo if the military mounted a coup d'etat.

"It's possible," he said.

There has been talk of coup plots against the President, especially after she was accused of stealing the presidential election in 2004. Protests calling for her to step down continue despite the quashing early last month of impeachment complaints against her in the House of Representatives.

Biazon, chair of the Senate committee on national defense, said he had relayed information about the cargoes, including the types and prices of the firearms and the specific landing areas, to the Armed Forces of the Philippines over the weekend so it could check on it.

"There's no feedback yet from the military," he said.

The firearms cost P28,000 each, except for the SKS, which is priced at P18,000 apiece, Biazon said.

More than a week ago, the senator, a former AFP chief of staff, alerted the military to an incoming arms shipment from overseas in view of Mussomeli's report that came out in the INQUIRER last month.

BIAZON

Private army

The report by Mussomeli, now the US ambassador to Cambodia, said Ms Arroyo had supporters who could be armed and whom she could count on, aside from the "unreliable military" to defend her administration.

A source disclosed that Ms Arroyo had her own "private army," which served as a counterforce to the military. The source did not discount the possibility that this was the group importing the arms.

Biazon also asked the military to check if the arms shipments had any connection with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen's admission that his country had been supplying arms to the Philippines.

"That could be the arms landing I'm referring to. That's up to the intelligence agencies to confirm," he said.

"But I don't know if the arms came from Cambodia. It can come from Cambodia, China and other countries."

Weapons from Cambodia

Reuters reported that Hun Sen publicly acknowledged for the first time on Friday that his war-ravaged country was a supplier of arms to militants in Asia. He appealed for aid to install detectors at ports to kill the illegal trade.

Arms had flowed to the Tamil Tigers in Sri Lanka, to the Philippines, which has communist and Moro insurgents, and to Karens fighting Burma's (Myanmar) military government, Hun Sen told diplomats and foreign investors.

"I have documents to prove that," he said, without indicating the scale of the arms smuggling, which has been an open secret for years.

The arms, accumulated during fighting in the 1970s and 1980s, could be shipped out because scanning equipment at border crossings were inadequate, he said. The Khmer Rouge won a civil war but were later ousted by a Vietnamese invasion.

"All our border gates must be equipped with scanners, not only to search for smuggled goods, but also to fight against arms and drugs smuggling," he told a meeting attended by 300 people.

"Terrorists could use containers to hide explosives and detonate them on the ships or in the planes on arrival overseas," he added.

Karagatan and Andrea

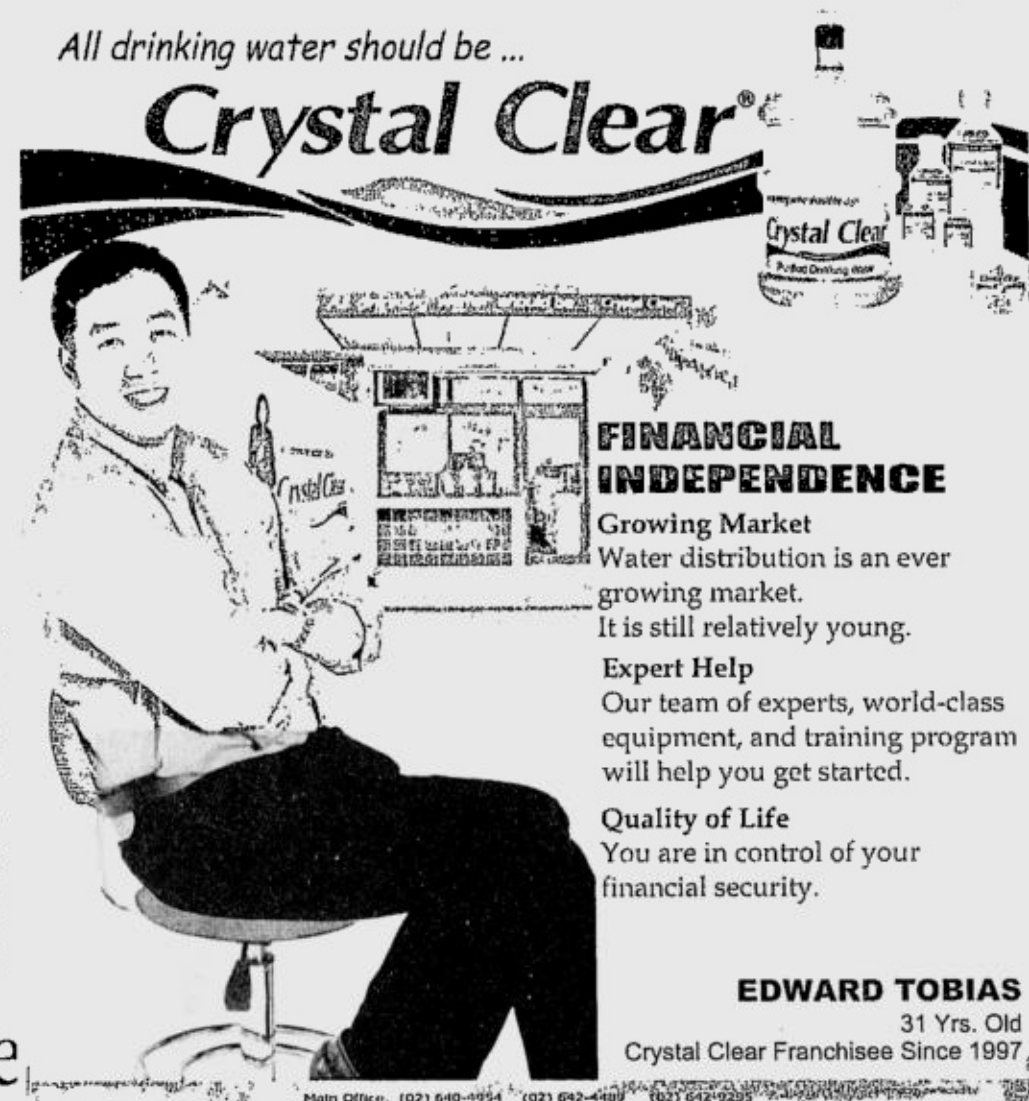
The Philippine military must check Hun Sen's disclosure because of its international implications, according to Biazon.

"If it's confirmed, this issue could take on an aspect of international relations. Aren't we going to protest if this is ascertained?"

The arms shipments, if confirmed, will not be the first to be unloaded off the coast of northern Luzon.

In July 1972, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) used the MV Karagatan to smuggle weapons from China through the coast of Palanan, Isabela. The boat ran aground and within a few days, government troops had recovered the bulk of the Chinese arms and ammunition.

The CPP tried again in January 1974, this time using the northwest coast of Luzon, which is nearer to China than the northeast coast. But the MV Andrea ran aground on coral reefs. *With a report from Reuters*



Politicians turn to Rizal for guidance

From page A1

Huwag muna, Rizal, hwag muna.

Huwag ka munang manahimik.

Kailangan ng bayan ang bagong dugo,

Na handang ibuhos sa kalayaan."

The lines were a plea to Rizal not to leave his people behind, that "there are a thousand rivers yet to cross and a thousand mountains yet to climb."

Salonga read three poems during an impromptu poetry-reading session at the launch of Roger Olivares' book, "Noli Me Tangere, 2," on Saturday afternoon at the Carmelite convent along Gilmore Avenue, Quezon City.

SALONGA PDI PHOTO

After 100 years

Olivares' book is a takeoff on Rizal's novel, "Noli Me Tangere," which was published in Berlin in 1887. Rizal's second novel, "El Filibusterismo," was published in 1891 in Belgium.

For writing the two novels, Rizal was charged with rebellion against Spain and executed by firing squad on Dec. 30, 1896. His death and the two novels inspired Filipino revolutionaries, like Andres Bonifacio, to take up arms against Spain two years later.

According to Salonga, Olivares' book shows that "Philippine society has not really changed much since the days of Rizal and Andres Bonifacio."

Grinding poverty

The former senator said the underlying problem besetting the country was still "grinding, massive poverty," with graft and corruption, the deteriorating quality of education and a double standard of justice as among its effects.

"This book is telling us, let's get hold of ourselves," Sen. Joker Arroyo said.

Life begins at 80

Like Rizal's two novels, Arroyo said the book written by Olivares "succeeds in provoking us to realize that nothing truly changes in the lives of our society's underclass, whether [under] foreign or Filipino rule."

Olivares, who also wrote the books "Teresa of Avila," "How Granada was Won" and the first travel guidebook in the Philippines, "Roger's Do-it-Yourself Tours," was cheered by his siblings, led by INQUIRER columnist Belinda Olivares-Cunanan, and classmates from the Ateneo University.

The grim issues facing the country then as now could not dampen the mood of Salonga, who poked fun at himself and his age.

Salonga elicited chuckles from the audience when he said that he was being invited as guest of honor "based on my senility."

He quipped that at his age of 85, going on 86, "I am harmless."

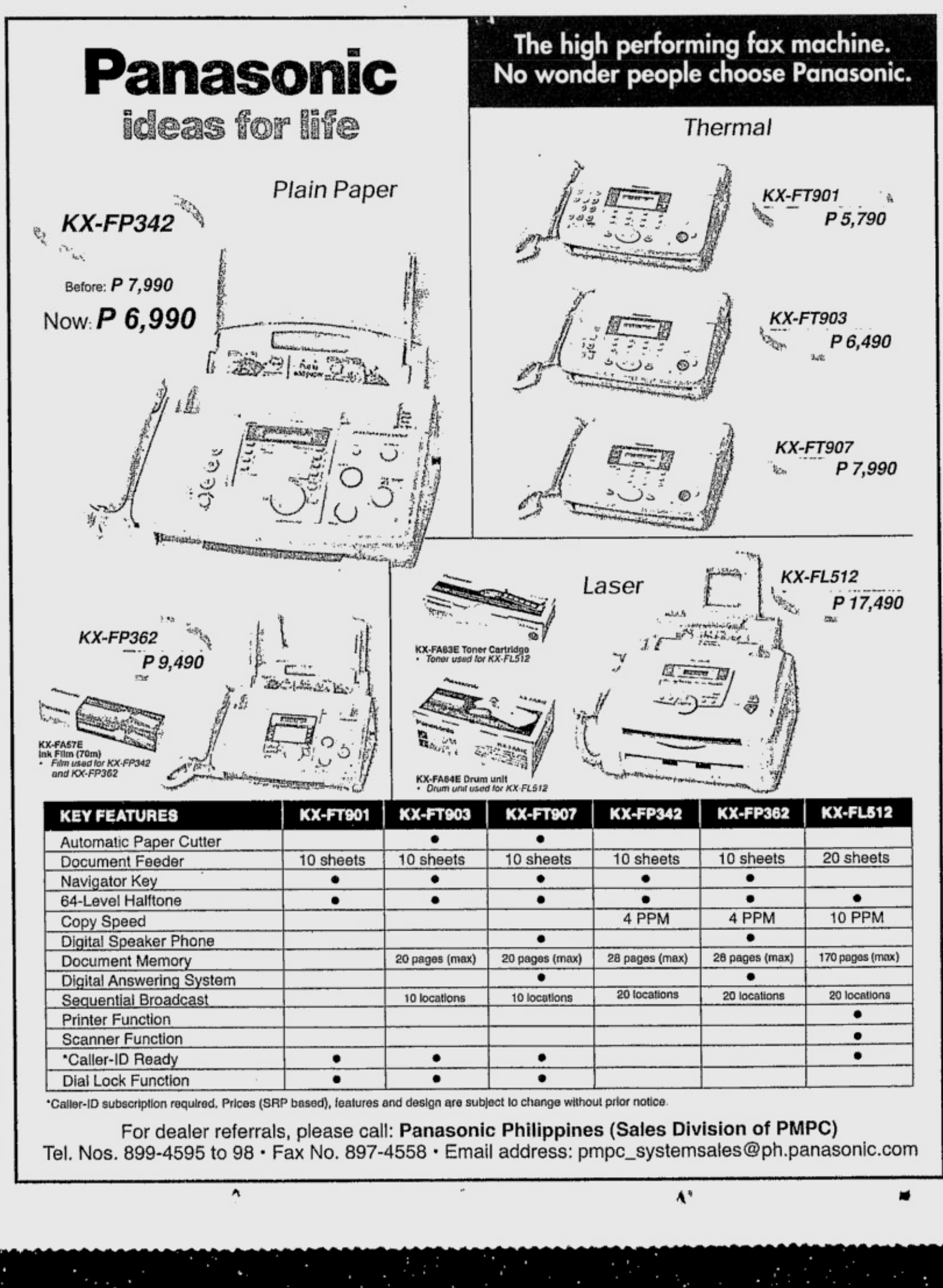
Then he read a piece, "Life begins at 80," by an American missionary writer.

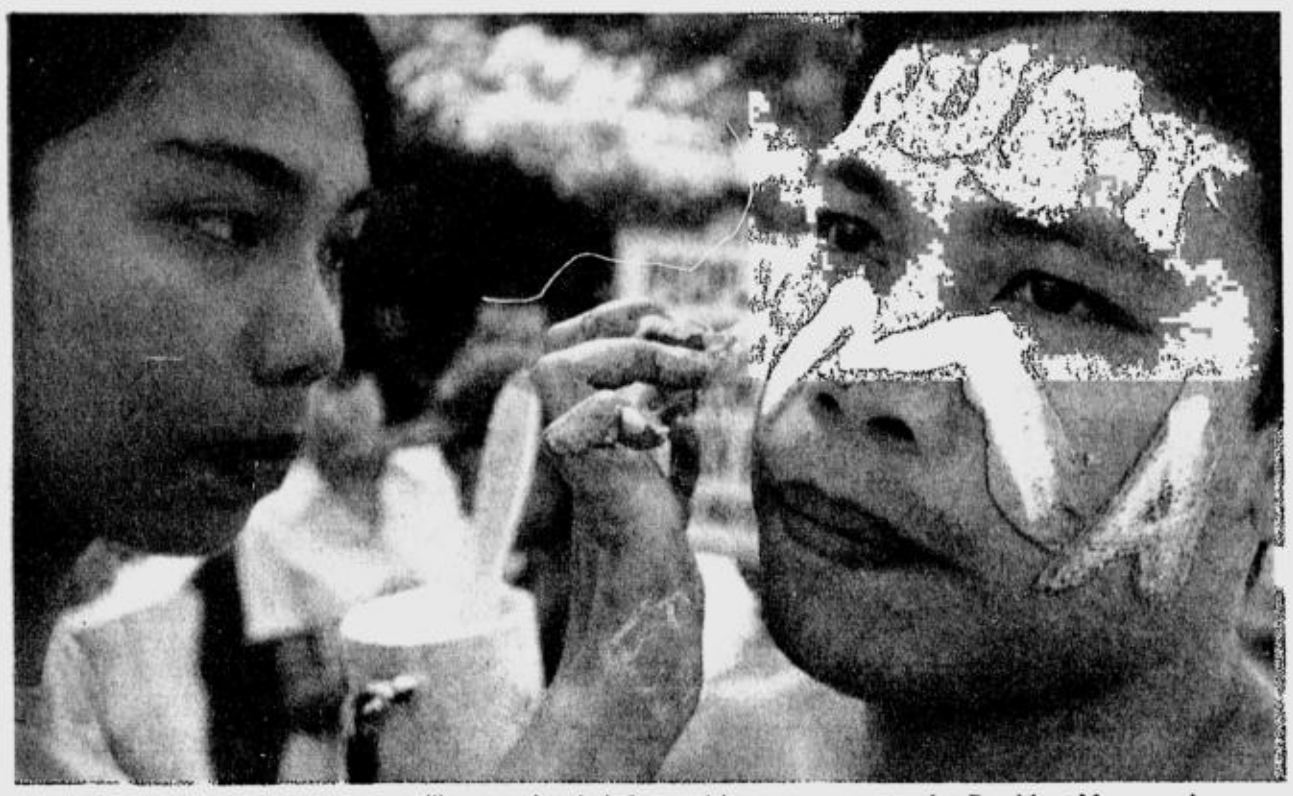
Laughing nuns

Salonga admitted to being inspired by Olivares' book, but he refrained from calling it Noli Dos because "it would sound like Edsa Dos."

The seldom-seen Carmelite nuns, who live monastic lives and who watched the book-launch from behind steel-bar room dividers, laughed when Salonga feigned surprise at his being invited as guest of honor.

"Hindi ba yong guest of honor ay para sa mga honorable congressmen lamang (Isn't being guest of honor reserved only for the honorable congressmen)?" he asked, in a dig at the 158 members of the House of Representatives who knocked out the impeachment complaints against President Macapagal-Arroyo.





LIKE Indians preparing to go to war, militants paint their faces with messages protesting President Macapagal-Arroyo's policy of "calibrated preemptive response." LYN RILLON

Anti-GMA art warns of bigger street rallies

From page A1

sage: "No to Martial Rule." A farmer attempting to keep land he tills in San Francisco del Monte in Bulacan, Cañete said the protest was meant to dramatize calls for the ouster of Ms Arroyo and genuine land reform.

KMP secretary general Danilo Ramos said that since Ms Arroyo came to power, the number of landless farmers had increased from seven out of 10 farmers to eight out of 10, particularly in Southern and Central Luzon.

Mendiola protest

The two groups announced plans to hold a protest at Mendiola on Oct. 21.

Pamalakaya and KMP chapters began massing yesterday at Crossing in Calamba, Laguna, for a march to Manila beginning today.

About 2,000 farmers, fishermen, workers and urban poor were expected to join the marchers. Over 3,000 peasant activists from Central and Northern Luzon will also stage a caravan from San Fernando in Pampanga to Manila on Oct. 20.

The groups said they planned to mass at "Freedom Park," a few meters from Malacañang's Gate 7, despite a ban on demonstrations near the Palace.

"Under their own reactionary law, protests can be staged in any declared freedom park," said Hicap.

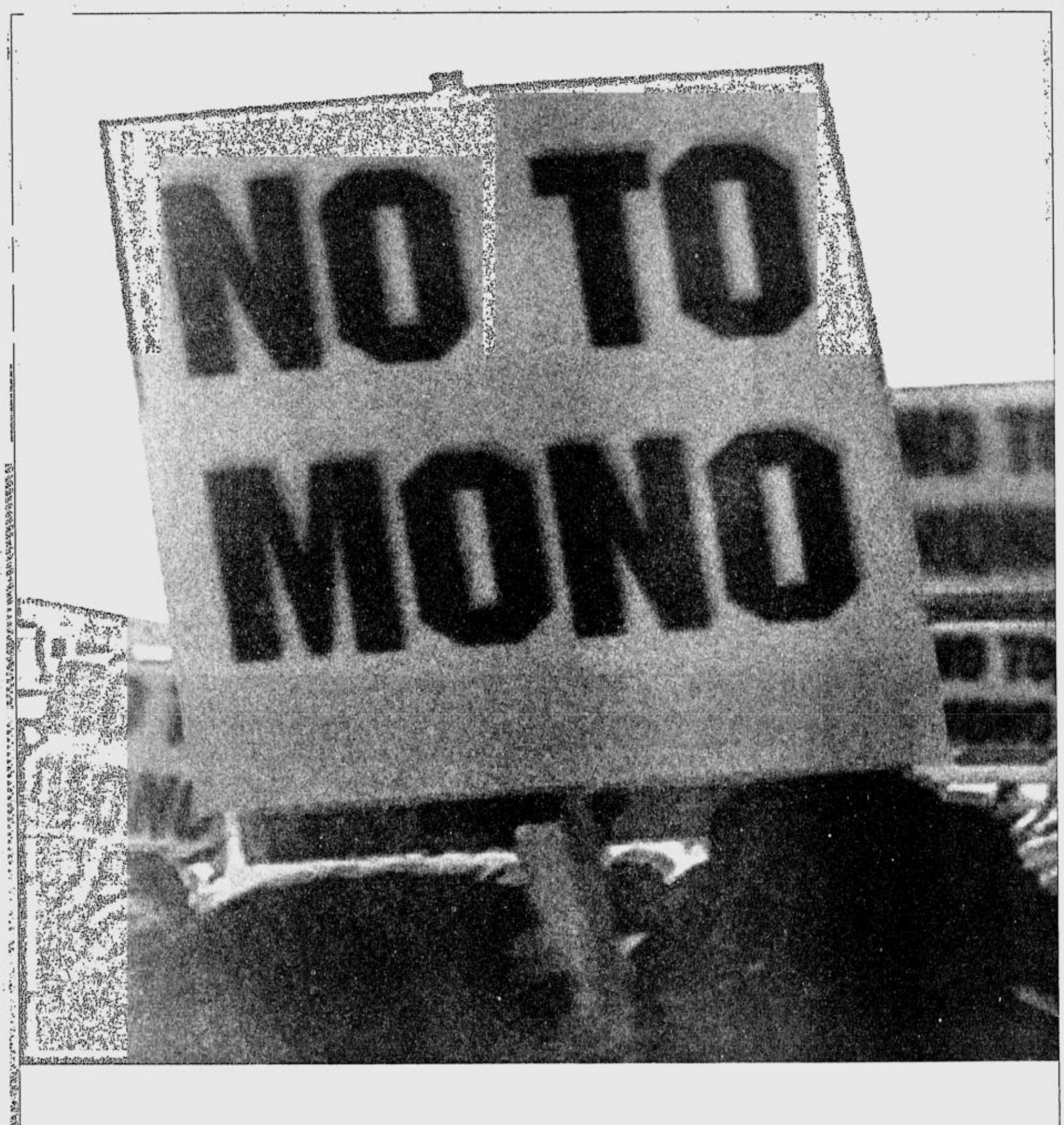
"By their own reactionary law, we can hold every day a protest at the Malacañang Freedom Park," he said.

Also yesterday, Ronald Lumbao of the People's Movement Against Poverty, which is closely identified with deposed President Joseph Estrada, said the group was joining the leftists' protests.

An alliance called "Baklasin si Gloria," between Estrada's supporters and leftist groups based in the capital, has also been formed.

Director Vidal Querol, Metro Manila's police chief, said that a protest action anywhere near Malacañang would not be allowed.

"You know what happened on May 1, 2001," Querol said, referring to the violent dispersal of a pro-Estrada mob that attempted to storm Malacañang. *With reports from Luigi A. del Puerto and Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*



THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, October 17, 2005
29th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Rom 4:20-25
Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd spoke to Jesus, "Master, tell my brother to share with me the family inheritance." He replied, "My friend, who has appointed me as your judge or your attorney?" Then Jesus said to the people, "Be on your guard and avoid every kind of greed, for even though you have many possessions, it is not that which gives you life."

And Jesus continued with this story, "There was a rich man and his land had produced a good harvest. He thought: 'What shall I do? For I am short of room to store my harvest.' So this is what he planned: 'I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones to store all this grain, which is my wealth. Then I may say to myself: My friend, you have a lot of good things put by for many years. Rest, eat, drink and enjoy yourself.' But God said to him: 'You fool! This very night your life will be taken from you; tell me who shall get all you have put aside?' This is the lot of the one who stores up riches instead of amassing for God."

Commentary

Someone in the crowd tries to get Jesus to publicly side with him against someone in his family on an issue of money and inheritance. But Jesus will not because the demand reveals the underlying violence and greed of all our hearts. He begins by warning everyone about greed and that it is not what gives life. He tells the story of the man who has a good harvest, gloats, plans to tear down his barns, build bigger ones, store up and live without responsibility or cares the rest of this days. First those who listened would have been horrified because the harvest came from God and first fruits belonged to God—10%, then it was expected that more was to be given to the community and especially to the poor and then you could keep the excess. But Jesus goes to the heart of the matter—the man is going to die, the way he has lived—with his greedy heart thinking only of more and how to live insensitive both to God and others' connection to him. Fools! Anyone who lives thinking of themselves first will lose it all. Do we amass fortunes, life, possibilities for others and for hope, serving God or are our hearts shallow and grasping? Are we fools too?

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

LABOR LAW (LABOR REALTIONS LAW)—Difference between independent contractors and employees—Jurisprudence provides other equally important considerations that support the conclusion that respondents were not independent contractors. First, they cannot be said to have carried on an independent business or occupation. They are not engaged in the business of filing, scooping and hauling coconuts and/or operating and maintaining a plantation and a golf course. Second, they do not have substantial capital or investment in the form of tools, equipment, machinery, work premises, and other implements needed to perform the job, work or service under their own account or responsibility. Third, they have been working exclusively for petitioners for several years. Fourth, there is no dispute that petitioners are in the business of growing coconut trees for commercial purposes. There is no question, either, that a portion of the plantation was converted into a golf course and other recreational facilities. Clearly, respondents performed usual, regular and necessary services for petitioners' business. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Panganiban, Third Division, Pamplona Plantation Company, Inc. v. Tinghil, G.R. No. 159121, February 3, 2005] DIGEST BY R.B. VERA

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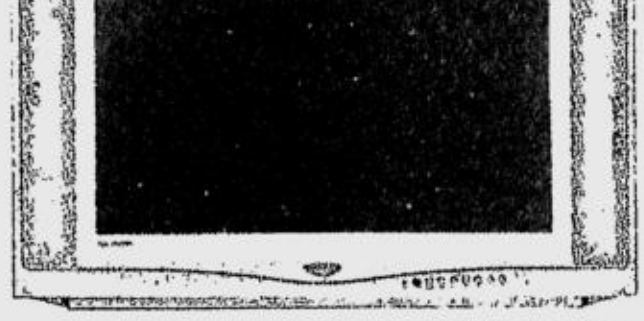

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VCD/DVD STEREO	TCL AV STEREO	STEREO SOUND

TCL

My New Favourite

DOWN YOU GO
LYN RILLON
Metropolitan Manila Development Authority workmen take down huge billboards which have been found hazardous. One billboard recently fell on a Metro Rail Transit train and paralyzed operations for hours.

Sta. Cruz trading firms raided

By Margaux C. Ortiz

NATIONAL BUREAU OF Investigation agents raided last week four trading firms in Sta. Cruz, Manila, and Caloocan City and seized thousands of pesos worth of counterfeit medical equipment.

The trading firms were identified as Tayuman Medical Supplies, at 1933 Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila, and owned by Lilia Medina; Mac Tycoon Marketing, at 1560 Bambang St., Sta. Cruz, Manila, and owned by Mario Calus; Medina Surgical Enterprises or R. Medina Enterprises, at 1550 Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila, and owned by Rodolfo Medina; and Clifton International Trading, located at 88-A Aquino St., 4th Avenue, Caloocan City, with Harry Co or Charles Ferrer as proprietors.

The firms and their owners were cited for selling unauthorized reproductions of medical items like stethoscopes and blood pressure monitoring equipment.

Mandaluyong child suspects get own cell

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

MINORS IN CONFLICT WITH THE law in Mandaluyong City will no longer have to share detention with adult suspects inside cramped and dirty cells.

The local police have designated the Police Community Precinct 6 in Barangay Addition Hills as the detention center for juvenile suspects.

Juvenile suspects used to be brought to the police headquarters and detained with adults.

Under the new setup, minors will still have to be brought to the headquarters for the required paper work, but later transferred to the separate detention cell, Police chief Senior Supt. Ericson Velasquez said

The detention cell is far more spacious than the cell at the headquarters, precinct commander Senior Insp. Tomas Arcallana said.

Currently, two child offenders are being held at the Addition Hills detention center. They were transferred from the headquarters last week.

30 sq. m.

The more than 30-sq.-m. detention cell can accommodate up to 20 suspects, a desk officer said.

It is equipped with a wall fan and a toilet with running water. The children are also given mattresses and mats.

But the problem is food, a patrol officer said.

"The precinct does not have a budget for their food. We (policemen) just share whatever we have with them. Their relatives also bring them food sometimes," the patrol officer said.

The children should have been under the custody of the local social welfare and development office.

With no facility for juvenile suspects, the office hands over young suspects to the police.

"We will have a bigger problem if more minor offenders are arrested," the patrol officer said.

Arcallana said he would request for three additional policemen to guard the detention cell.

Lucky few

But children in conflict with the law in Mandaluyong are only a few of the lucky ones, along with youth detainees in Caloocan City.

Largely because the government cannot afford other options, most of the thousands of juveniles detained each year must fend for themselves in overcrowded jails among grown men charged with murder, rape and other violent crimes.

For many, their families do not have the money that can help speed up a notoriously slow and overloaded justice system.

"They should not be here. It is the court who orders them to stay," said Alejandro Almacen, the warden of Caloocan City Jail.

"If they are incarcerated now, it will ruin their future."

Children as young as 9 can be jailed in the Philippines. In Indonesia, criminal liability starts even lower at age 8, while it is 14 in Japan.

"The most difficult part is losing hope," said Christian, a 14-year-old drug suspect, protesting his innocence. "Because of them, I was not able to pursue my studies and I was separated from my family."

Death penalty

After sporadic hearings, he is no closer to knowing his fate on the drug charges. The more serious of the two, selling shabu, has a mandatory sentence of life in prison or the death penalty.

With a third of the 86 million people in the Philippines living on P56 a day and families commonly having six, seven or eight children, studies by various groups show that poverty, desperation and neglect play large roles in youth crime.

Juvenile Justice Network-Philippines, which works with young offenders, estimates there were more than 4,000 children in jails and detention centers in September.

"Most of them were charged with minor crimes such as petty theft, sniffing of glue or solvents, vagrancy and violation of curfew hours," it said in a statement urging faster action on a bill in Congress to set up a separate legal track for minors.

On death row

The group says about 240 juveniles are serving sentences in adult penitentiaries, including 18 on death row who cannot prove they are minors because they have no birth certificates.

By detaining children with adults and sentencing them to capital punishment, the Philippines is breaking international treaties it has signed and its own laws.

Responsibility for young offenders rests with local authorities, but the justice department has started to address the issue by working with several other agencies to determine the exact number of jailed minors and to share resources.

Since 1990s

Proposals for a stand-alone system for young offenders, including punishment options such as community service, have been in Congress since the 1990s.

Senators have resumed deliberation on the Comprehensive Juvenile Justice System bill.

The bill would raise criminal liability to age 12, provide separate detention centers for children, establish diversion programs at the community level and create the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

With Reuters

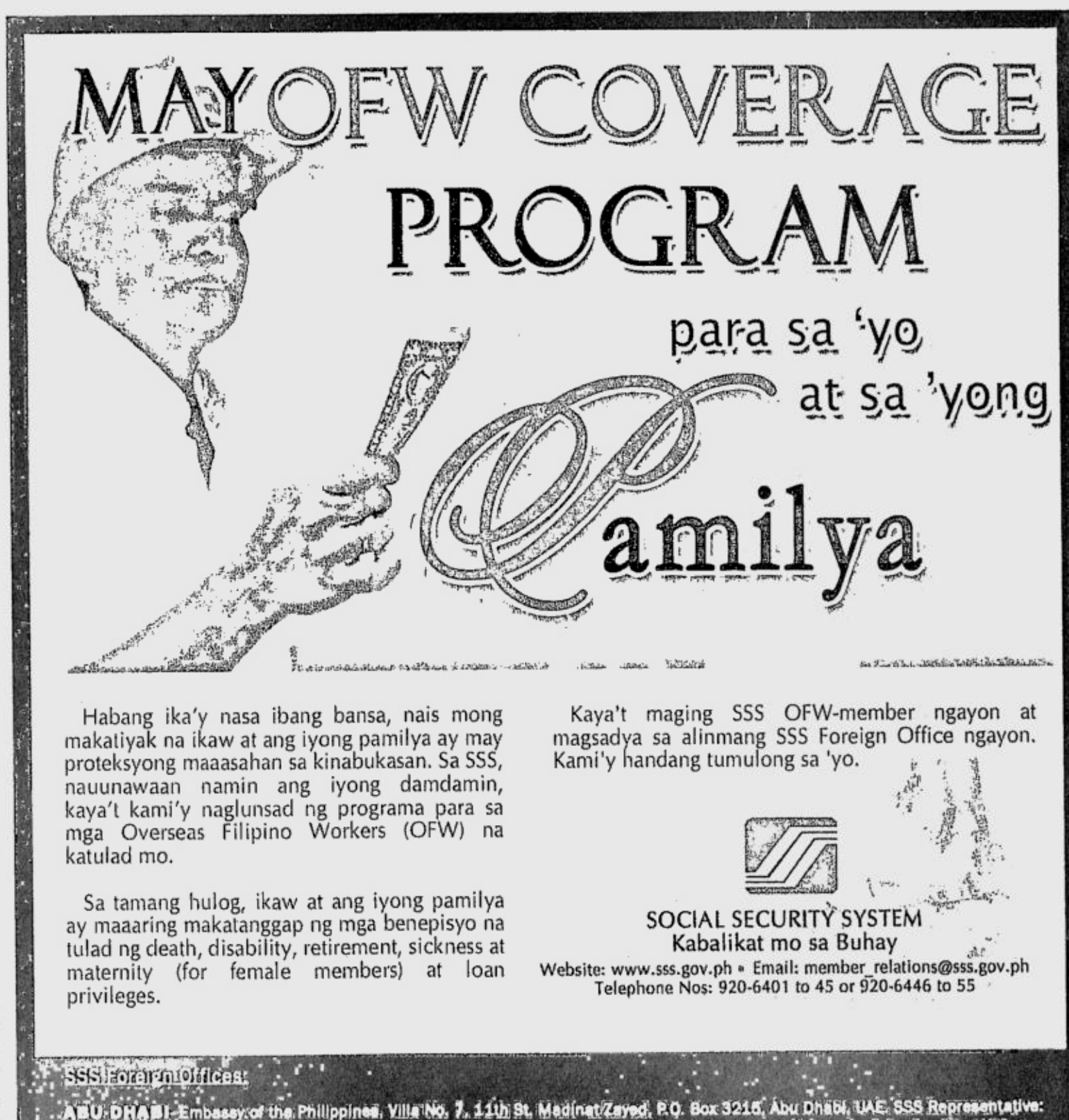
Fireman slain in fire station

POLICE ARE ON THE HUNT FOR 41-YEAR-old FO3 Joel Tullo of the Sta. Ana Fire Station for the killing of fellow fireman SFO1 Rolando Yanga, 51, who was stabbed to death the other night.

Detective Edgardo Ko of the Manila Police District Homicide Section said Yanga and Tullo had an argument during dinner at about 9 p.m.

When Yanga went to their dormitory, witnesses saw Tullo get something from his locker before allegedly following the victim upstairs.

Margaux C. Ortiz



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2005

METRO

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

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Crackdown to mark relaunch of bus plan

By Margaux C. Ortiz

THE METROPOLITAN MANILA Development Authority (MMDA) would be showing some teeth today as it reimplements the much-delayed Organized Bus Route (OBR) system along Edsa.

MMDA Traffic Operations Center Director Angelito Vergel de Dios said that his men would immediately impound buses, even the legitimate ones, without the required OBR tags.

Vergel de Dios said the MMDA gave bus operators one month up to Wednesday last week to have their units tagged. However, as of Friday, only 1,700 of the roughly 3,000 legally operating buses had been tagged.

OBR tags are tamper-proof, nontransferable cards which bus drivers will need to get queue cards and allow them to ply their routes under the controlled dispatch scheme.

"Buses without tags will be considered colorum or illegal vehicles and immediately impounded without question," Vergel de Dios said, adding that operators and drivers who ignored the application period to get the required OBR tags will have to suffer the consequences.

The OBR scheme was designed to reduce buses on Edsa and eliminate colorum or illegally operating units.

It works by controlling the dispatch of buses depending on the availability of passengers.

The buses will be running in a single line where overtaking is prohibited. Also, the time spent by buses at loading and unloading points will be limited by timers.

Vergel de Dios said operators of impounded buses would have to pay a P6,000 fine for the release of their units, unless they produce the proper MMDA documents.

"Only then would we refund the P6,000 fine," Vergel de Dios explained.

Last chance

The MMDA gave bus operators one last chance to get OBR tags for their units over the weekend.

"As usual, there was a long line of bus operators cramming to have their buses tagged in our Edsa Extension office," Vergel de Dios said.

The OBR will be enforced in at least 25 northbound and southbound routes that traverse Edsa.

The agency has established OBR terminals at route endpoints in Alabang, Baclaran, FTI, Navotas, and Fairview, and seven more control points where queue cards for dispatch will be issued.

MMDA had launched and relaunched the OBR since 2003 but it had met challenges that forced the agency to shelve the scheme several times.

Awaiting the relaunch of the Edsa bus dispatch system Navotas Mayor Toby Tiangco said his government was ready for the OBR.

"Everything is set and we are just awaiting the official word from the MMDA for the Organized Bus Route program to start," Tiangco said as he inspected the completed OBR Bagumbayan North Station in his town.

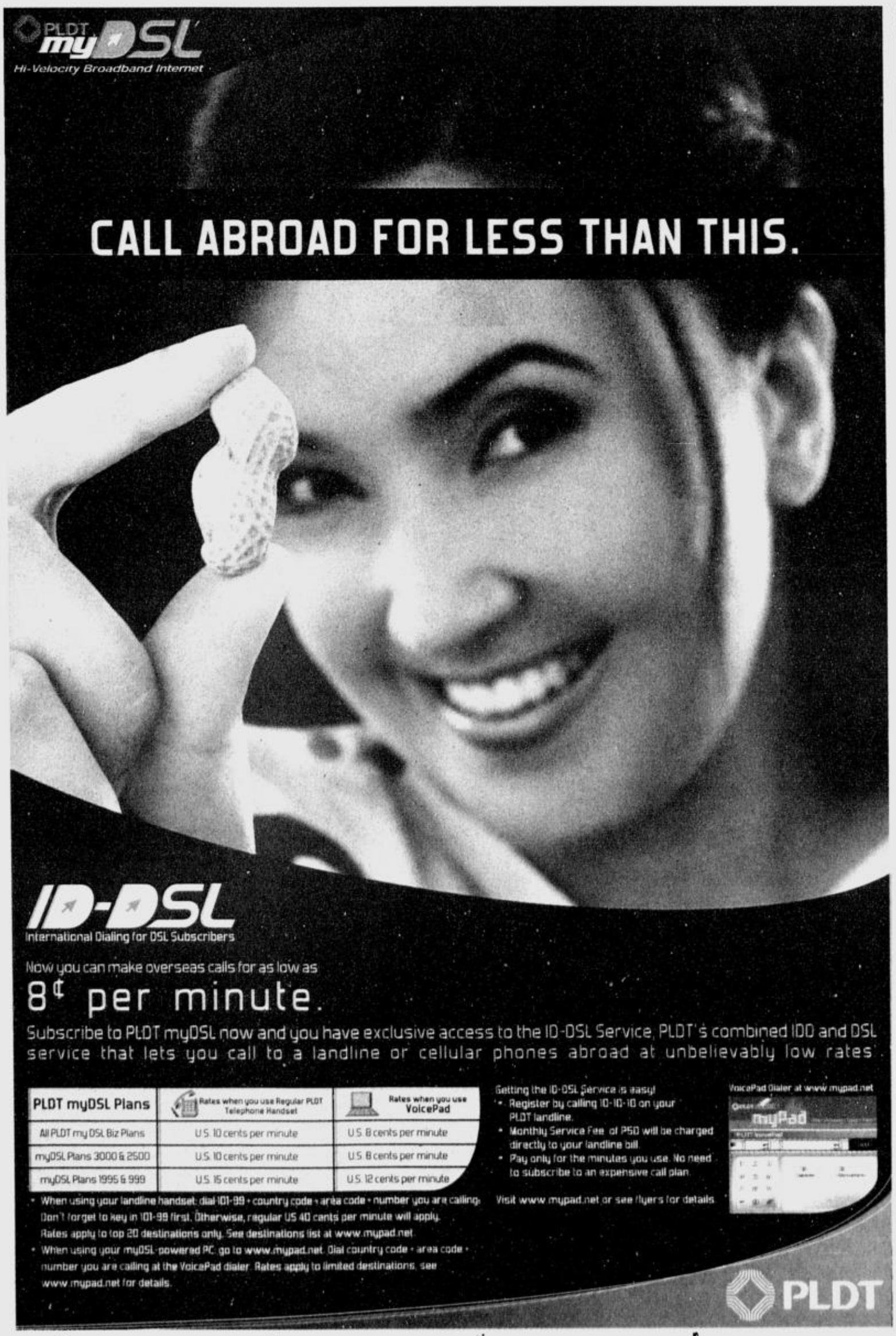
"The terminal has the best location in the city and has a clear view of the Manila Bay," Tiangco said.

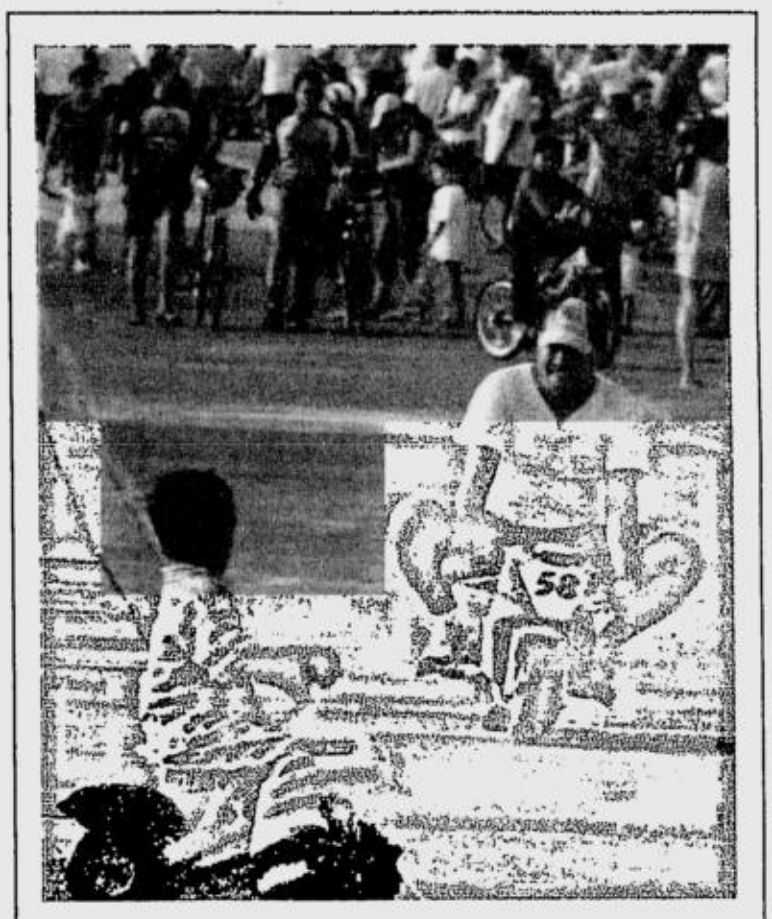
He added that he offered the municipal land to MMDA because of the benefits it had for Navotas.

"Aside from putting Navotas on the map, it would also energized economic activity in the town," Tiangco said.

Tiangco said the local government entered into a memorandum of agreement with MMDA for the use of the close to 5,000 sq. m. of municipal land in exchange for development in the area.

Navotas let MMDA takeover to the rehabilitation of the area which once served as an open dump because the town did not have the funds for it," Tiangco said. *With Nancy C. Carvajal*





BIKERS
A small boy with a big bike and a big boy with a small bike enjoy the Sunday morning along the Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard in Pasay City. ROGER MARGALLO

Kidnapping raps filed against cops

By Margaux C. Ortiz

TWO POLICEMEN TAGGED IN the abduction of a Chinese-Filipino businessman remained at large even as the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) filed kidnapping for ransom and robbery charges against them and two others in Manila.

Insp. Marijon Perez and PO2 Clifford de Guzman have eluded arrest while De Guzman's brother, Jeffrey, and alleged accomplice Aurelio Pavo Jr. remained in jail for another kidnapping case.

Jeffrey is also a policeman assigned to the Manila Police District Anti-Illegal Drugs Division.

The charges filed by the NBI stemmed from the Sept. 1 kidnapping of Henry Sia of Sta. Cruz, Manila, who was released the following day after the payment of P200,000 ransom.

Apart from kidnapping-for-ransom, the NBI also filed separate car theft and robbery charges against the four men after they also took Sia's Mitsubishi Pajero, his cellular phone, P10,000 cash and ATM and identification cards.

De Guzman was also charged with illegal possession of firearm for owning an unregistered 9 mm Beretta pistol that NBI agents seized during a raid at his house on Sept. 20.

Aside from the gun, NBI agents also confiscated from De Guzman's house the Toyota Lucida van used in the abduction of Sia and a hand grenade.

Sia had identified the suspects from NBI file photographs.

Despite coordination with the National Police, De Guzman and Perez remained free after reportedly going absent without official leave.

Meanwhile, Jeffrey and Pavo are being held without bail for the kidnapping of businessman John Y. Chua of Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City, in August.

They were arrested on Sept. 3 for Chua's abduction.

In his complaint, Sia said the two De Guzmans, Perez and Pavo blocked his Pajero near his house and forced him into a Toyota van where he was blindfolded. He was brought to Clifford's house on Linao St., Quezon City.

The kidnappers demanded P5 million from the victim's family, but later agreed to P200,000.

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Yap shines as Giants overcome Beermen

PUREFOODS' Roger Yap gets sandwiched by San Miguel Beer import Rico Hill and Olsen Racela during last night's game. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

By June Navarro

PUREFOODS CHUNKEE CONquered another giant it had not beaten for a long time—and in overtime as well.

James Yap struck on a layup after his own steal as the Chunkee Giants escaped with a 92-90 overtime squeaker against the San Miguel Beermen last night in the San Mig Coffee-PBA Fiesta Conference at the Araneta Coliseum.

Yap stripped the leather from Danny Seigle, scooted for a layup and, even though he missed a three-point play with 19.6 seconds remaining, the Giants went on to snap a seven-game losing streak against the Beermen since 2003.

"It's an incredible weekend," said Purefoods coach Ryan Gregorio, who finally toppled the Beermen three nights after the Giants' overtime survival against the Alaska Aces from 29 points.

Purefoods last beat San Miguel in the elimination round of the 2003 Reinforced Conference.

Kerby Raymundo and Noy Castillo filled in for the foul-troubled Marquin Chandler, but it was Marc Pingris who provided the crucial rebounds that helped the Giants to a 3-1 slate. Pingris finished with 11 points and 10 boards.

In the second game, Quemont Greer had 25 points and 17 rebounds and Red Bull scored its second victory in four games with an 84-77 triumph over Air21.

The Express fell to 1-2.

The scores:

First Game

PUREFOODS 92—Chandler 26, Raymundo 21, J. Yap 12, Pingris 11, Castillo 8, R. Yap 6, Salvador 4, Billones 4, Artadi 0, Simon 0.

SAN MIGUEL 90—Seigle 30, Belasco 16, Hill 15, Ildefonso 10, Adriano 9, Racela 5, Calaguio 3, Hubalde 2, Villoria 0.

Quarters: 14-13, 38-34, 61-63, 83-83, 92-90

Second Game

RED BULL 84—Greer 25, Tugade 18, Baguio 10, Fonacier 9, Ybañez 6, Valenzuela 6, Villanueva 5, Cruz 3, Bugia 2, Rodriguez 0, Pennisi 0.

AIR21 77—Daniels 23, Ritualo 16, R. De Ocampo 10, Tubid 10, Ferriols 6, David 4, Se 2, Fran 2, Y. De Ocampo 2, Arboleda 2, Canaleta 0, Dacia 0, Gonzales 0.

Quarters: 24-14, 45-42, 69-61, 84-77

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Django bows to Hungarian

FILIPINO CUE MASTER Francisco "Django" Bustamante bowed to Hungary's Vilmos Voldes, 3-7, Sunday and fell into a three-way tie for second at 2-1 (win-loss) with his tormentor and Malta's Tony Drago in the World Pool League in Warsaw, Poland.

Thorsten Hohmann of Germany whipped Alex Lely of the Netherlands, 7-3, to remain as the only unbeaten player in the six-man field.

Drago beat Taiwan's Kuo Po-cheng, 7-5.

Bustamante faces Hohmann today while Drago takes on Voldes and Cheng battles Lely.

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Mark passed test, says cager's dad

By Jasmine W. Payo and Musong Castillo

THE FATHER OF MARK BENITEZ, the La Salle player identified in published reports as the one who submitted false high school records, added a new twist to the controversy yesterday by saying his son was actually eligible for admission in the university.

An unimpeachable source also told the INQUIRER that Benitez's parents have agreed to come out in the open, through a leading television network, as soon as La Salle officially pinpoints Mark as the offending cager.

The source said the parents are ready to identify a former member of the coaching staff as the one who facilitated their son's papers.

La Salle officials have been avoiding naming the player, and the INQUIRER withheld his identity when the issue first came out. But numerous Internet message boards have identified Benitez as the Green Archer in question.

"My son passed the exam fairly," said Mark's father, Mesh Benitez, in a statement released to the INQUIRER. "He took the PEP exam on Nov. 17, 2002 and the results were released [in] March 2003."

The statement comes a week after La Salle admitted that the Philippine Educational Placement Test Certificate of Rating (PEPTCR) submitted by the player "turned out to be spurious," and he was therefore "neither eligible for admission to DLSU nor for participation as a member of DLSU's basketball team."

The PEPTCR is a test a player may take to get into college even without a high school diploma.

The older Benitez denied the school's claim that his son had been invited twice to shed light on the case.

"We're willing to go to the school if there is a formal invitation," he said. "We're willing to come out in the open, but we haven't received a letter from them.

"They know our address. They sent a letter before when they invited Mark to the team."

La Salle executive vice president Dr. Carmelita Quebengco said the four-man committee she formed to investigate the scandal has been stalled because it is still waiting for Benitez "to show up."

"The school could have pursued its own investigation with other concerned parties even without Mark," said the elder Benitez. "We hope that La Salle will make the investigation quick because it's becoming very difficult for our family."

A source at the TV station said the parents of Benitez have told station officials that their son has not gone out of his room for the past five days and has hardly eaten.

Meanwhile, Ateneo assistant athletic director Ricky Palou, acting on an INQUIRER report that the Archers actually fielded two ineligible players during their 2004 championship conquest, yesterday said he will bat for an investigation of all of the UAAP schools' lineups spanning the last decade.

"If these allegations are true, maybe we should go back and check all the papers in the last 10 years," Palou, also the UAAP technical committee chair, said. "To be fair, [not only] La Salle, but all of the teams."

ARCHER Mark Benitez has hardly eaten over the last five days, says his father.

Minoza falters in final round with a 74

KOH SAMUI, THAILAND—FRANKIE MIÑOZA failed to sustain his surprising fine form, finishing with a 3-over-par 74 Sunday to end up in a tie for 11th place in the Bangkok Airways Open won in a playoff by Taiwanese veteran Lu Wen-teh.

The Filipino shotmaker, playing in his first tournament after a two-week vacation in the United States, totalled 283 in a tie with Thai Prom Meesawat. Miñoza had earlier rounds of 68-70-71 and held third place in the first three days.

The 42-year-old Lu, the overnight leader, edged out the local favorite, Thammanoon Srirot, with a par on the first hole of a sudden-death shootout at the demanding Santiburi Samui Country Club after both players finished tied on seven-under-par 277 in the $200,000Asian Tour event.

Lu carded a closing one-over-par 72 on a final day that was disrupted for three hours due to torrential rain. But that wait was nothing compared to the long seven years since Lu's last triumph.

"I'm very happy, it was a long day and I was feeling very tired at the end," said Lu, who picked up $31,500 and became the third Taiwanese player to win on the Asian Tour this year. *AFP*

Disgrace and dismay

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

PLEASE FIND TIME TO OFFER PRAYERS FOR the De La Salle University.

May this reputable institution regain the peace it has obviously lost following the controversy involving its strong and popular varsity basketball squad, 2004 champion and runner-up in this year's UAAP.

No dirge, no flowers; but it could not be said that nobility did not suffer a strangling in the case of La Salle, which has been conducting its own investigation into the cheating mess revolving around the use of an ineligible player.

The situation that La Salle has been caught in is so disgraceful the university itself could not sanely wish it upon its fiercest rival.

* * *

Or has someone actually wished this dreadful fate on DLSU?

OK, the school has offered to surrender last year's UAAP championship trophy and also forfeit its runner-up finish this year.

This spoke well of the school, which definitely strives hard to uphold honor and honesty among its officials and student populace.

However, in its current probe of the mess, it would do well for La Salle authorities to also check claims by the coaching staff headed by the multi-titled Franz Pumaren that they never knew of the involved cager's questionable background until the second game of this year's championship series that was won by Far Eastern U.

A fish smells here.

* * *

This sensitive point had to be raised following the report of the INQUIRER's Jasmine W. Payo that La Salle officials had known ahead of that particular game about the ineligibility of one of its players, later identified as center Mark Benitez.

It was further reported that La Salle had informed UAAP president Fr. Maximino Rendon about the discovery that one of its players was ineligible prior to the second match of the title series.

The school investigation is expected to center on how Benitez was recruited into the prestigious La Salle outfit with no valid high school diploma.

But we could only share the disgust manifested by Bulletin sports editor Ding Marcelo who twitted UAAP Fr. Rendon for failing to make the proper move despite prior knowledge of the discrepancy.

* * *

Instead of calling an emergency meeting to inform the UAAP board of La Salle's crisis, Marcelo noted, Fr. Rendon kept the information to himself.

La Salle, which brought out the mess with the offer to surrender its recent trophies, deserves understanding and sympathy. The fault of one or a few disreputable individuals should not reflect wholly on the respected institution.

What's hard to fathom though is the reason given by Fr. Rendon on why he kept the knowledge of the anomaly to himself instead of taking the proper move.

"Do you want me to turn the public away?" Fr. Rendon was quoted as asking.

Of course, not.

But did he have to also figure in the corruption?

Prayers may no longer suffice in this case.

* * *

(PUBLIC SERVICE: From Benjie Angeles, agriculture activist: "Oct. 17-21 is anniversary week of the Department of Agriculture-National Inspection Services. They will sell very cheap fresh/frozen pork, beef, chicken. DA-NMS is on Visayas Ave. across the DENR Bldg. in Quezon City... There's a prayer for Manny Pacquiao to include former two-time world champion Luisito Espinosa in his training team for the rematch against Erik Morales. It's said Espinosa could serve both as sparmate and consultant.)

PUP netters stun UST for crown

POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LEANED ON THE heroics of Rocky Paglalunan to fashion out a stunning 2-0 victory over University of Santo Tomas yesterday and capture the men's team title in the 2005 Milo All-Students Tennis Championships at the Philam Homes Tennis Club. Paglalunan saved two matchpoints and came from behind to down UST's Maclean Barraquias, 8-7, before Edilbert Anasta and Ignacio Sabas sealed the victory for PUP coach Rene la Torre with an 8-6 doubles clincher past the Barraquias-Jordan Cimafranca pair. La Salle upset defending champion St. Benilde, 2-1, to top the women's play in the event organized by CTW and supported by Adidas and Sports Resources Inc., distributors of Prince equipment.

80 fights up in Stag Festival

ROUND TWO OF ROLIGON MEGA COCKPIT'S STAG FESTIVAL 5-stag derby gets going at 4 p.m. today with more than 80 fights lined-up. The opening round was held Saturday night with 14 out of 82 entries posting two wins each in the derby sponsored by Lakpue Drug Inc. and Thunderbird Enertone. The early pacesetters are Bobby Seelin, Benny Lado, Rep. Manny Andaya, Dong Lacson, Nilo Golor, Tony Poticar, Norman Tugot, Toto Balinghasay, Erwin Diamante, Boyet Berger, B. Negro, E. Diamante and the JDF entry. Host Rolly Ligon has put up a guaranteed prize of of P1.3 million and an Isuzu 4x4 Big Horn which will be awarded to the fastest win champion. For inquiries, call 851-2275, 833-1638, 852-9812 or 0917-8277484.

Stagfighter battle heats up

AT LEAST 70 EXCITING FIGHTS ARE SCHEDULED as the seventh leg of Pinoy Cockers Association of the Philippines 5-stag derby unfolds at 5 p.m. today at the Makati Coliseum. All eyes will be on the battle for the PCAP's Stagfighter of the Year plum. The top contenders are Pepito Ngo, Jet Fernando and the Jingco Brothers (Fajinfer, 20.5 points); Willie Villarica, 20; Sonny Lagon and Gerry Ramos, 19.5; Boy Marzo, 19; Ruel Ricafort, 19; Vice Mayor Nestor Mercado, 18.5; Efren Canlas, 16.5; Rudy Albano, 16 and William Co, 16.

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The Entrepreneur Category seeks to honor the owner or part-owner of an enterprise who are the main catalyst of the business.

Early submission of entries shall be on Oct. 28, 2005. Absolute deadline is on Nov. 25, 2005. For complete mechanics, reach us through our contact details below.

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Imported Wild Orchid trips Real Spicy in D. Juan Derby

WILD ORCHID FLASHED HER MIGHT OVER the long route and beat local star Real Spicy in the Don Juan Derby last night at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite.

The second-favored Australian imported filly showed Real Spicy the way early on, then vaulted away at the top of the stretch to capture the 2,000-meter event by six lengths under the superb handling of Fernando "Dhunoy" Raquel Jr.

A 3-year-old bay daughter of High Yield out of Dove Orchid, Wild Orchid captured the P1.18 million first prize for the Moreno Stable as she clinched her fifth victory in six starts at the track which Real Spicy calls home.

"The winner was good," said Real Spicy's owner-breeder Hermie Esguerra.

Real Spicy came home under heavy punishment from Antonio Alcasid Jr. and settled for P442,000. Pine Needles finished third, followed by Ocean Deep and Passing on Passion.

"*Malaki talaga ang inumento niya* (She really improved a lot)," said Raquel of Wild Orchid, who traveled the distance in 2 minutes 05 seconds (25-23.5-25.5-24.5-26.5).

Real Spicy's loss, only his second in 12 runs at the SLLP, came a race after Esguerra celebrated the stunning triumph of far second choice Don Exequiel over the Raquel-ridden Dixie the Younger in the Juvenile Colts.

Don Exequiel, a son of Bench Mark out of Belle Epoque, was guided by Jockey of the Week Jesse Guce. *Edwin Villanueva, Contributor*

RP golfers wind up 19th

THE PHILIPPINES FINISHED 19TH IN A field of 22 as its ladies squad failed to keep up with its men's team Saturday in the 2005 Spirit International Amateur Golf Championships in Houston.

Anya Tanpinco and Lora Roberto combined for a second straight 73 after two 74s even as Gene Bondoc and Marvin Dumandan closed out with a 68 at the Whispering Pines course.

The Filipinos wound up with another 141 total to finish at 568, barely besting Colombia (141-571) and Finland (146-574). Puerto Rico was last at 611 after a 154.

England, boosted by the solid form of its ladies, ran away with the championship with a 533 after a fiery 131, posting an 8-stroke victory over South Africa (138-541) and dethroned champion United States (136-541).

Dumandan had four birdies against a lone bogey while Bondoc mixed two birdies with the same number of bogeys.

Tanpinco and Roberto are both vying for the last berth in the RP squad that will see action in next month's Southeast Asian Games.

The first two slots have been conceded to US-based and reigning RP Ladies Open champion Jayvie Agojo and Fil-Australian Frances Bondad, who recently won the RP Amateurs.

Villamor takes WGAP 8th leg

MARISSA ROMANO TURNED IN A BIG 40-point effort as Villamor topped Class A in the eighth and penultimate leg of the Women's Golf Association of the Philippines WGAP Circuit at the Mt. Malarayat Golf and Country Club in Lipa City.

Mei Fuhong scored 38, Sarah Cruz had 37 and Jo Barredo chipped in 35 as the Villamor ladies totaled 150 and turned back Sta. Elena by two points for the title. Riviera was another two points further adrift in third place.

Villamor actually won two of the three divisions with the team of Beth Romero, Ting Yupangco, Nancy Tsay and Carol Nielsen ruling Class B.

Romero and Yupangco combined for 86 points to lead Villamor (155) to a four-point win over Riviera. Alabang wound up third.

Malarayat, made up of Digna Coronado, Ingrid Moeller, Aida Cilindro and Edna Suguira, topped Class C with 154 points, four better than Alabang and 13 ahead of Forest Hills.

Individual winners were Janesse Carr of Malarayat in Class A, Mi Jung Oh in Class B and Christine Naidoo in Class C.

Alabang retained the WGAP Cup lead with 33 points, followed by Sta. Elena at 31, Southwoods at 18 and Villamor at 9 going into the final leg at Sta. Elena on Oct. 24.

RENAULT driver Fernando Alonso celebrates in his car after crossing the finish line to win the Shanghai Grand Prix. REUTERS

Alonso lifts Renault to team crown

SHANGHAI, CHINA—WORLD CHAMPION Fernando Alonso won the season-ending Chinese Grand Prix on Sunday to clinch his Renault team's first-ever Formula One constructors' title.

Starting from pole position, Alonso held off Mclaren's Kimi Raikkonen to take his seventh title this season and eighth overall.

Raikkonen began closing in the final laps but could only settle for second place, four seconds behind the Spaniard. Toyota's Ralf Schumacher came third.

Renault finished with 191 points for the season after Alonso won and teammate Giancarlo Fisichella finished fourth. McLaren had 182 points after Juan Pablo Montoya out after 25 laps.

Michael Schumacher's bad luck at Shanghai continued, starting from the pit lane after a pre-race collision then spinning out after just 22 laps.

Alonso and Fisichella pulled away from the field at the start before Alonso started moving away from his teammate.

Alonso gained about a second a lap, leading by 11.2 seconds at the end of 10 laps. The McLarens were third and fourth, keeping within a second or two of Fisichella.

The race changed dramatically when the safety car came out after the 19th lap when Montoya ran over a drain cover on the track.

Alonso's lead of nearly 20-seconds evaporated.

When they resumed racing on the 24th lap, it was Alonso, Fisichella, Raikkonen. Montoya was in 13th then immediately went into the pits, his race finished. *AP*

National runners rule King of the Road race

NATIONAL RUNNERS JULIUS SERmona and Christabel Martes led all the way in dominating the 2005 Adidas King of the Road yesterday at the Adidas Sports Kamp in Bonifacio Global City.

The 27-year-old Sermona of Mamaylan, Negros Occidental ruled the men's race in 31 minutes and 23 seconds while Martes, of La Trinidad, Benguet, clocked 35 minutes and 28 seconds to top the women's side.

They found little resistance from the field of 2,138 runners in the absence of two-time Olympian Eduardo Buenavista and Mercedita Manipol, the reigning King and Queen of the Road in Asia.

Sermona and Buenavista will represent the country in the 5K and 10K events of the 23rd Southeast Asian Games set here Nov. 27-Dec. 5.

Martes will run in the 42K event. Manipol, who topped the 10K run of the 29th Milo Marathon finals last week, will compete in the women's 5K and 10K races in the biennial meet.

Sermona and Martes each won P10,000 plus P20,000 worth of Adidas products. They will also represent the country in the next Asian King of the Road.

The event was presented by Globe Gentxt with the participation of Nissan Frontier Titanium 3. It was held in cooperation with Snickers Chocolate Bar, Cherifer Premium Multivitamins, Powerade, Viva Mineral Water, Milo and Blue Angel Alcohol.

Nelbert Ducusin and Abraham Barcarse tied for second in a deadheat, clocking 33:19 behind Sermona. Placing second to Martes was Flordeliza Carreon with Liza Delfin coming in third.

The four runners all won in their respective age groups.

Direct Link Runners Club bagged the team title while Makati Global Running Club placed second. The Mariners team A settled for third place.

The age group winners were Gerald Cotchoco (9-12); Ducusin and Carmina Bernardino (13-19); Barcarse and Carreon (20-29); Regie Lumauag and Delfin (30-39) and Raul Lorbes and Rosario Alberto (40-above).

MARTES: Country's 42-k hope.

AMA bags WNCAA senior trophy

AMA COMPUTER UNIVERSITY completed a Cinderella finish yesterday when it beat Lyceum of the Philippines, 59-45, to sweep the senior A best-of-three finals in the WNCAA tournament at the SSC gym.

Paula Marie Lontok's twinner in the final 1:45 of the match gave the Lady Titans their biggest lead, 55-40.

AMA dropped both its elimination round games against two-time champion Lyceum, 63-42, on Aug. 14 and 55-49 on Sept. 18.

"We learned from our previous mistakes," said AMA mentor Charmaine Salalila.

AMA, one of three newcomers this season along with La Consolacion College and World City Colleges, also won Game 1 on Saturday, 57-33.

In the senior B finals, San Beda College Alabang leaned on the torrid shooting of Lovette Macalinga to beat St. Scholastica's College, 63-47, and leveled their best-of-three series at 1-1.

St. Scholastica took Game 1, 52-44.

They will dispute the championship next Saturday, Oct. 22.

Defending junior champion De La Salle Zobel nipped Miriam College, 52-50, to take Game 1 of their best-of-three series.

In the opener, Chiang Kai Shek College defeated SBCA, 61-47, for third place in the junior division.

The WNCAA 36th season is being supported by Adidas, Penshoppe, Mikasa, Molten, Cherifer vitamin, Rio 106.7 and ABC 5.

Rich purse at stake in varsity badminton

THE COUNTRY'S TOP BADMINTON varsity players battle for over P300,000 in prizes when the JVC Inter-scholastic badminton championships takes place from Nov. 17 to 23 at two different venues.

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The boys and girls champion in the high school division will get P20,000 each. Runners up in both college and high school ranks will also get cash prizes.

The organizing IMG said registration is free and ongoing. Deadline is on Nov. 10 at 5 p.m. For details, call 8942995, 0917-8050702, 0917-8050601, 7252568 and 0917-5288970.

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'Shamnesty'

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

(But for an oversight, this column should have appeared yesterday. ED.)

I'VE HEARD SO MUCH TALK ABOUT MAKING Fil-Shams Filipinos outright. They have labeled the plan amnesty.

Initially, I had thought of it as OK, fine. Let's start fresh, let's start all over again by "forgiving" everybody.

No more rewinding.

Fast forward, please.

Past is past.

Let's move on.

The future is there for the taking.

But on second thought, though, I think it isn't right.

It isn't right because Fil-Shams are Fil-Shams, period. They are illegal, deceitful, from Day One.

You grant amnesty only to those not guilty of any wrongdoing, as in the case of political prisoners, whose crime, if it can be called that, is simply to question how our leaders continue to misrule this poor country of ours.

The Fil-Shams are guilty of falsification, of passing themselves off as Fil-Ams when in truth and in fact, they aren't.

In amnesty, only the President has the sole authority to execute it.

Parenthetically, if an amnesty is adopted at all in the PBA, commissioner Eala can become the sole executioner to give substance to the rule and grant justice to the word amnesty itself.

But in the case at hand, can commissioner Eala, an honorable man, have the heart and the conscience to extend clemency to one who has duped the league for so long, as in an impostor Fil-Am?

To be honest, that's a travesty to the league's time-honored tenet of honesty, dignity and truthfulness.

Amnesty, by its implicit suggestion, is sweeping. Once carried out, there'd be no more ifs and buts. It is absolute. Unquestionably irreversible, irrefutable. Joma Sison, Vic Corpuz, and Satur Ocampo, to name only a few, were recipients of amnesty benefits. From behind bars as political prisoners, Tita Cory had them released and made free men again to blend with society without qualification.

But can Asi Taulava, Alex Crisano or Chris Jackson, the foreign-born players with yet-to-be-established Filipino roots, be likened to Joma Sison, Vic Corpuz and Satur Ocampo?

Joma, Vic and Satur had done nothing, except to expose the ills of a society gnawed by greed and the rapaciousness with which the filthy rich and conscienceless politicians bleed the country dry.

Asi, Alex and Chris have not established their legitimacy as Filipinos and we are thinking of making them Filipinos outright through this shortcut called amnesty?

C'mon, commissioner, you can do better than that.

Granting amnesty to the Fil-Shams is non-sequitur. It does not follow, so to speak, because that'd be unfair to their fellow foreign-born players who had legally established their legitimacy after laboriously taking gargantuan efforts to prove their Filipino lineage.

Come now the Fil-Shams taking slots alongside legitimate Fil-Ams only because of amnesty.

That's appalling, to say the least.

Give amnesty to the suspected forgers of their citizenship documents and GMA may as well grant amnesty to all the rapists, hostage-takers, kidnappers and murderers now behind bars.

Let's slow down, fellas, pause for a moment before we make that dash to the finish line of "Fil-Shamithon," otherwise we might commit a sin we would regret the rest of our life, if not to the eternal damnation of the league's life.

We've had an overdose already of "Fil-Shams"—from Sonny Alvarado, the Puerto Rican, to Pekekak Timmarayen, the Timbuktutan—that it's time we shaped up.

Amnesty anyone?

Uh-oh. You mean "shamnesty?"

* * *

FASTBREAK. Oct. 15 (last Saturday) was memorable for me. Malaya Sol, the first child of Ricky and Malaya Sadiwa, was baptized that day at our Lady of Remedies Chapel inside Don Enrique Hts. in Quezon City. Malaya Sol, whom I call Mayasoh, is my grandchild and a first cousin of Mayo, Dada and Migel. They say that a person is complete if he/she has written a book, planted a seedling (who said you can plant a tree?) and has gotten himself/herself a grandchild. Like Sol Juvida, I have also achieved all three. Sol and I thank the Lord Jesus Christ for that... Also on Oct. 15, Ricky, Mayasoh's father, turned a new leaf. Happy birthday, Ricky, the love of Ayapot's life... Dave Floro, whom I treat like a real brother simply because his Dad, the late Danny Floro of Crispa fame, was more than a father to me, also celebrated on Oct. 15. Happy birthday, Dave, and here's a wish that you'll have more birthdays to come! Cheers!

* * *

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Day 2, October 26, 2005, Wednesday
- Industry Situationer on Mobile Payment
- Available e-Payment Solutions (Panel Discussion and Discussion plus Case Presentation)
- Mobile Micro Payment in Small Business
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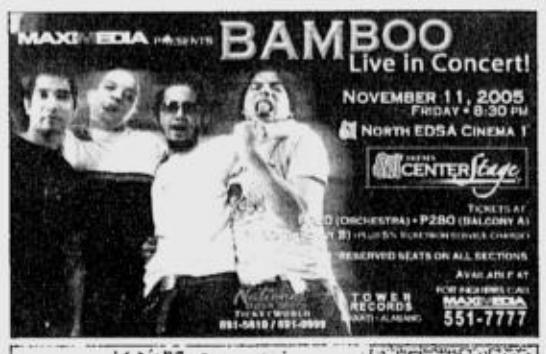

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THE PODIUM 633-8976

1 DEUCE BIGALOW
12:30FS/01:00MF/03:00/05:00/07:00
08:30LFS/09:00LMF/10:30END

2 LORD OF WAR
01:00FS/01:20MF/03:50/06:20
08:20LFS/09:00LMF/11:00END

MEGAMALL
LORD OF WAR
11:30FS/12:00MF/02:30/05:00/07:30
09:30LFS/10:00LMF/12:00END

CEBU (032) 231-3876

1 INTO THE BLUE
12:00FS/12:18MF/02:36/04:54/07:12
09:05LFS/09:30LMF/11:25END

2 LORD OF WAR
12:00FS/12:18MF/02:36/04:54/07:12
09:08LFS/09:30LMF/11:30END

3 DEUCE BIGALOW
12:00FS/12:20MF/02:10/04:00/05:50/07:40
09:05LFS/09:30LMF/10:55END

METRO MANILA

SM MEGAMALL
1 LORD OF WAR
2 WALLACE AND GROMIT
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 TRANSPORTER 2
5 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
6 INTO THE BLUE
7 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
8 DUBAI
9 DUBAI
10 TRUMPETS: LITTLE MERMAID
11 DUNGEONS AND DRAGON
12 LAND OF THE DEAD

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
1 WALLACE AND GROMIT
2 TRANSPORTER 2
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
4 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
5 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
6 DEUCE BIGALOW
7 LORD OF WAR
8 INTO THE BLUE
9 DUBAI
10 DARK WATER
11 BLADE OF THE ROSE
12 BROTHERS GRIMM

SM NORTH EDSA
1 DEUCE BIGALOW
2 WALLACE & GROMIT
3 DUBAI
4 DUNGEONS & DRAGON
5 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
6 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
7 INTO THE BLUE
8 LORD OF WAR

SM CITY MANILA
1 DEUCE BIGALOW
2 DUNGEONS & DRAGON
3 INTO THE BLUE
4 LORD OF WAR
5 WALLACE & GROMIT
6 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
7 CINEMANILA
8 CINEMANILA
9 DUBAI
10 LAND OF THE DEAD
11 DUBAI
12 CINEMANILA

SM CITY STA MESA
1 LORD OF WAR
2 DUNGEONS & DRAGON
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
5 DUBAI
6 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
7 INTO THE BLUE
8 WALLACE & GROMIT
9 TRANSPORTER 2
10 LAND OF THE DEAD

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
1 LORD OF WAR
2 DUBAI
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 DUNGEONS & DRAGON
5 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
6 TRANSPORTER 2
7 INTO THE BLUE
8 WALLACE & GROMIT
9 HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
10 LAND OF THE DEAD

SM SAN LAZARO
1 LORD OF WAR
2 DEUCE BIGALOW
3 WALLACE & GROMIT
4 DUNGEONS & DRAGON
5 CINEMANILA
6 DUBAI

SM SUPERCENTER SUCAT
1 DUNGEONS & DRAGON
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DUBAI
4 DEUCE BIGALOW

SM CITY BICUTAN
1 LORD OF WAR
2 DUBAI
3 DUNGEONS & DRAGON
4 DEUCE BIGALOW

LUZON

SM CITY PAMPANGA
1 LORD OF WAR
2 DEUCE BIGALOW
3 CONSTANT GARDENER
4 INTO THE BLUE
5 ONE MISSED CALL 2
6 DUBAI

SM CITY BACOOR
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 WALLACE & GROMIT
3 LORD OF WAR
4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
5 DEUCE BIGALOW
6 DUBAI
7 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
8 INTO THE BLUE

SM CITY DASMARINAS
1 DEUCE BIGALOW
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DUBAI
4 WALLACE & GROMIT

SM CITY LUCENA
1 DUBAI
2 PERFECT CATCH
3 THE CAVE
4 DEUCE BIGALOW

SM CITY BAGUIO
1 LORD OF WAR
2 BROTHERS GRIMM
3 DUBAI
4 DEUCE BIGALOW

SM CITY MARILAO
1 DEUCE BIGALOW
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DUBAI
4 BROTHERS GRIMM

SM CITY BATANGAS
1 PERFECT CATCH
2 DUBAI
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 LAND OF THE DEAD

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

SM CITY CEBU
1 BROTHERS GRIMM
2 INTO THE BLUE
3 DARK WATER
4 PERFECT MAN
5 THE CROW 4: WICKED PRAYER
6 LAND OF THE DEAD
7 DUBAI
8 RESERVED

SM CITY ILOILO
1 BROTHERS GRIMM
2 RESERVED
3 DUBAI
4 DARK WATER
5 PERFECT CATCH
6 A SOUND OF THUNDER
7 RESERVED
8 LONG WEEKEND

SM CITY DAVAO
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 THE CROW 4: WICKED PRAYER
3 DUBAI
4 LAND OF THE DEAD
5 DEUCE BIGALOW
6 LORD OF WAR

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1 DEUCE BIGALOW
2 DUBAI
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
4 PERFECT CATCH

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1 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
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R-13

2 WALLACE & GROMIT
1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00
GP

3 LORD OF WAR
12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00
R-13

4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
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R-13

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INTO THE BLUE
PG13
5:00,7:25,9:50

WALLACE AND GROMIT
GP
1:25,3:35,5:45,7:55,10:00

DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO
R13
12:00,2:00,4:00,
6:00,8:00,10:00

THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN
R13
12:00,2:25,4:50,7:15,9:40

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
PG13
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7:40,10:00

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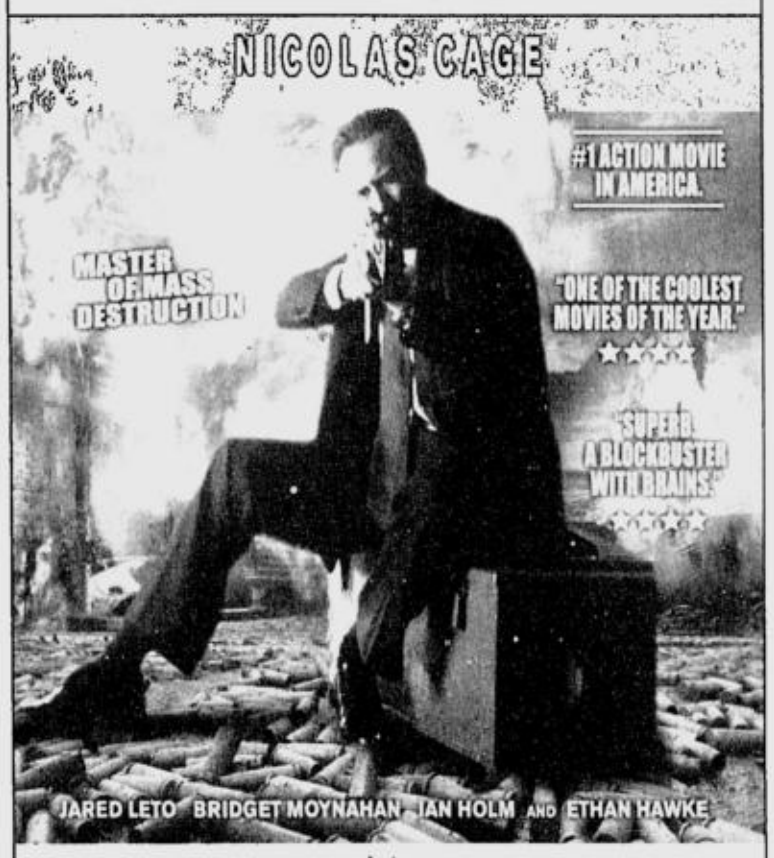

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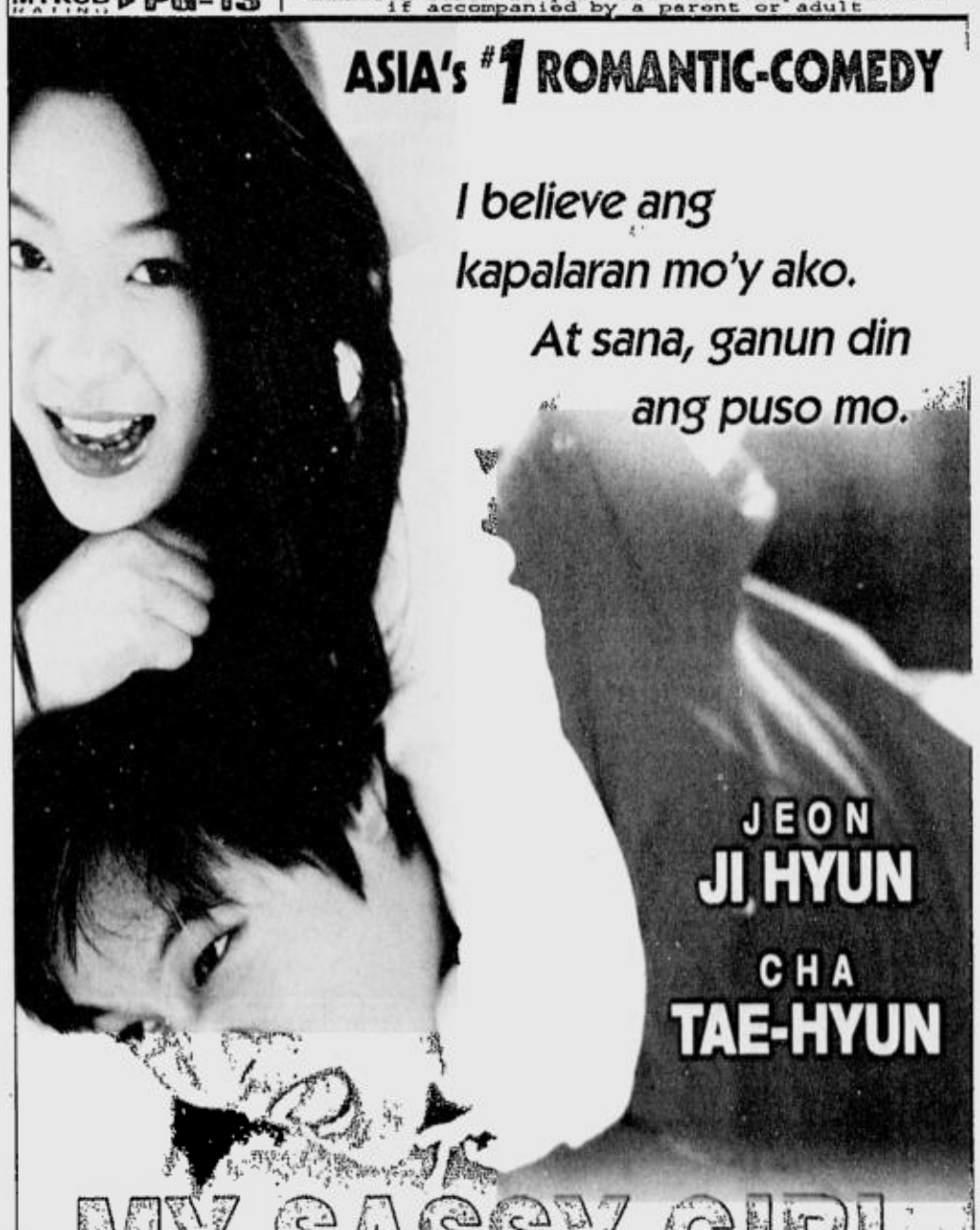

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GARCIA: I

ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA—FREDDY Garcia became the latest White Sox ace to pitch a gem, Paul Konerko homered in the first inning again and Chicago beat the Los Angeles Angels, 8-2, to lead the American League championship series, 3-1, on Saturday.

Seeking its first World Series title since 1917 and its first appearance since 1959, Chicago can wrap up the AL pennant on Sunday, when Jose Contreras pitches against Paul Byrd in a rematch of Game 1 starters.

Garcia pitched a six-hitter, following up on Mark Buehrle's five-hitter and Jon Garland's four-hitter. The White Sox became the first team to pitch three straight complete games in the postseason since 1973.

AJ Pierzynski also homered for the White Sox, his third of the postseason. That was more than enough offense for Chicago—its pitchers have given up just eight runs in the series and 17 in seven postseason games.

While the Windy City team found its power stroke on the West Coast, some of Los Angeles' leading lights have flamed out: Vladimir Guerrero, the 2004 AL MVP, is hitting .063 (1-for-16), with cleanup hitter Garret Anderson at .133 (2-for-15) and Bengie Molina at .154 (2-for-13). The trio have combined for three RBIs and Guerrero, who grounded out four times, was repeatedly booed.

But the crowd of 44,857 concentrated its loudest jeers on the umpires.

With two on in the first, Konerko checked his swing on a 2-2 pitch in the dirt, and first-base umpire Ed Rapuano ruled he didn't go around. Konerko, whose two-run ho
deposited
to the left-
Los Ang
on Molina
ners at th
Steve Finle
and secon
he ran u
claimed Pi
But plat
it, and Chi
double pla
relay just b
manager M
in vain. the
the bat hit

Astros take 2

HOUSTON—ROGER CLEMENS HELD the St. Louis Cardinals in check with six gritty innings, Mike Lamb homered and the Houston Astros won 4-3 in Game 3 of the National League championship series on Saturday.

Brad Lidge finally allowed a run against the Cardinals, but got David Eckstein to fly out with a man on second to close it out. The Astros took a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series and need only two more wins to reach the first World Series in the franchise's 44-year history.

With two games left at Minute Maid Park, they can wrap it up at home, too.

Game 4 is
set to face
The
playing
Sanders,
Nunez to a
Hector
Cardinals
row after t
Missing
Clemens s
his lowest
St. Louis
down and
fifth and s

ANNIKA Sorenstam is back

Sorensta
muscle, g

PALM DESERT, CALIFOR
nia—Annika Sorenstam
seized control amid melt
downs by Michelle Wie and
Grace Park and fired a 6 un
der 66 to take a four-stro
lead at the Samsung World
Championship on Saturday.

Sorenstam pulled away
with four birdies on the last
five holes.

The Swede began her late
charge with a bending 18-
foot birdie putt on the 14th
hole, and suddenly had that
spark in her eye as she raced
away at the flags and
pumped her fists when the
birdie putts disappeared. The

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Pitching gem AP

ner sparked Chicago on Friday, rvin Santana's next offering in- eld seats for a 3-0 lead.
les closed to 3-1 in the second soft RBI single and had run- corners with one out when v pulled the ball between first . Pointing toward the plate as the first-base line, Finley rzynski's mitt nicked his bat.
umpire Ron Kulpa didn't call ago turned an inning-ending v, with shortstop Juan Uribe's ating Finley to the bag. Angels ike Scioscia and Finley argued ugh a replay appeared to show he glove. AP

-1 lead

n Sunday, with Brandon Backe he Cardinals' Jeff Suppan.
nged-up Cardinals, already ithout left fielder Reggie st third baseman Abraham knee injury.
una made a key error, and the ropped their second game in a king the opener at home.
his most overpowering stuff, ruck out only one—matching otal of the season, also against July 17. But he kept the ball minimized the damage in the th. AP

in top form. AP

m flexes
goes 4 up

only birdie putt she missed was a 12-footer on the 17th that hung on the lip.

She finished at 15-under 201 to lead Gloria Park, who shot a 68.

"I finished a lot better than yesterday," said Sorenstam, whose back-to-back bogeys at the end of the second round knocked her out of the lead. "The previous two days, I haven't made anything, and I missed little putts.

"It really leaves a sour taste in your mouth, especially when I feel like I'm playing so well." AP

Araneta Center Leisure Guide

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	GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA
DEUCE BIGALOW 2 12:35 / 2:50 / 5:05 / 7:20 / 9:35	DEUCE BIGALOW 2 2:15 / 4:30 / 6:45 / 9:00
LORD OF WAR 12:50 / 3:40 / 6:30 9:20	THE 40 YR OLD VIRGIN 1:00 / 3:40 / 6:20 / 9:00
WALLACE & GROMIT 2:10 / 4:20 / 6:30 8:40	INTO THE BLUE 1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2 12:50 / 3:40 / 6:30 / 9:20	DUBAI 1:40 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:10
CORPSE BRIDE 2:10 / 4:20 / 6:30 / 8:40	TRANSPORTER 2 1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20

ALI MALL CINEMAS

1. DUBAI — 12:30 / 3:00 / 5:30 / 8:00
2. LORD OF WAR — 11:55 / 2:45 / 5:35 / 8:25
3. DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2 — 12:05 / 2:55 / 5:45 / 8:35
4. INTO THE BLUE — 12:35 / 3:05 / 5:35 / 8:05
5. DEUCE BIGALOW 2 — 12:10 R3 / 1:25 / 3:40 / 5:55 / 8:10

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Oct 21 Friday — COCA COLA vs TALK N TEXT 4:40 pm; ALASKA vs AIR 21 7:25 pm

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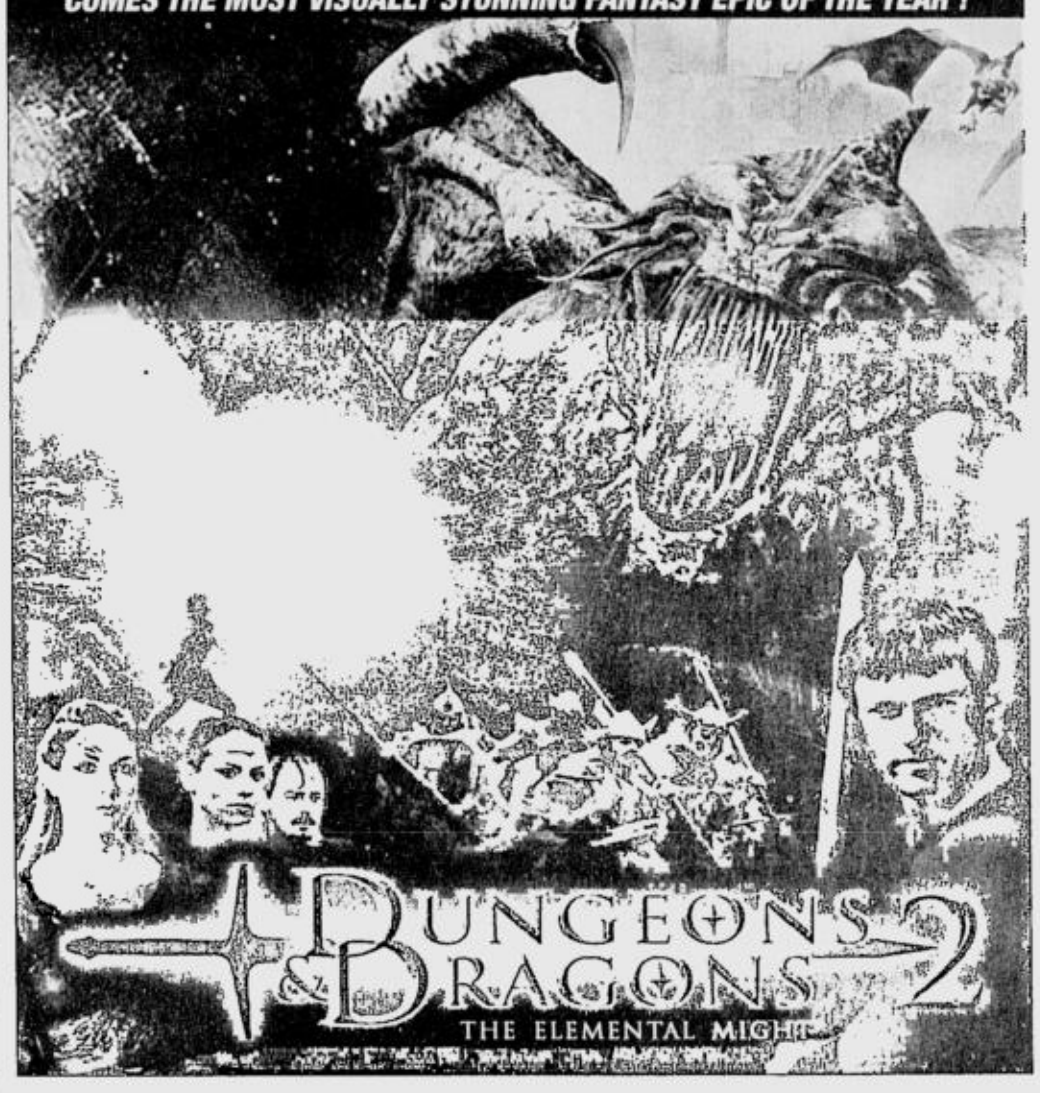

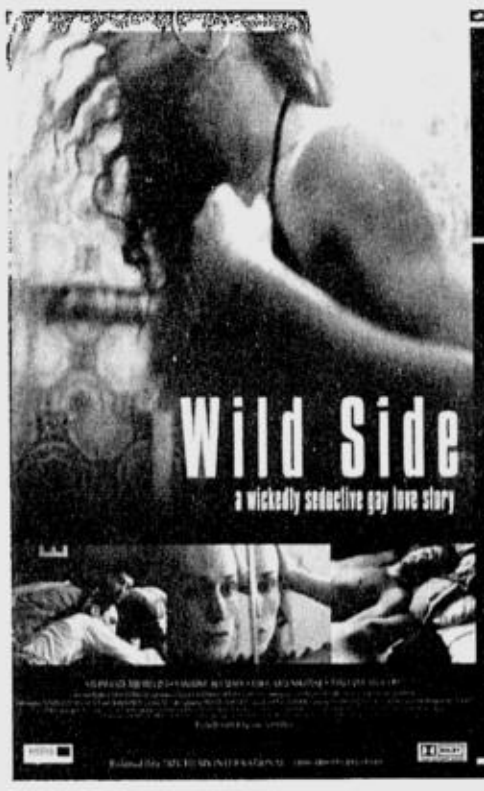

An untold gay love story has now revealed...
Wild Side
exclusively at
Robinsons Movieworld
METRO EAST
• October 12 - 18
• MTRCB Rating: R-18
For SCREENING SCHEDULES, pls. contact our CINEMA ACCESS 635-5555 or visit us www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

Local Digital Features
ALA VERDE ALA POBRE
(Ana Capri, Ebong Joson) Directed by: Bricio Santos
ANG DAAN PATUNGONG KALIMUGTONG
(Analyn Bangsi-il, Nemee Tocdangan, Rhenuel Ordono) Directed by: Ramon De Guzman
CUT
(Joel Torre) Directed by: Jon Red
DILIM
(Rica Peralejo, Mano Magallona, Emilio Garcia) Directed by: Topel Lee
ILUSYON
(Yul Servo, JC Parker) Directed by: Paulo Villaluz / Ellen Ramos
MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE AND JOHN
(Richard Quan, Neil Ryan Sese, Maria Isabel Lopez) Directed by: Gil Portes
TRABAHO
(Ping Medina, Sigrid Bernardo) Directed by: Ned Trespeces
TULI
(Desiree Del Valle, Carlo Aquino) Directed by: Auraeus Solito
CINEMANILA FILM FESTIVAL 2005
watch them all here at
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
Ermita
(Level 4)
- October 12 to 25 -
MOVIEWORLD
CINEMANILA international film festival

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

Ayala Cinemas

1 DOLBY	WALLACE & GROMIT GP
2 DOLBY	DEUCE BIGALOW 2 R13
3 DOLBY	LORD OF WAR R13
4 DOLBY	40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN R13
DOLBY	CORPSE BRIDE GP

Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216

1	LORD OF WAR
2	WALLACE & GROMIT
3	DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
4	DEUCE BIGALOW-2

stARmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150

1	RESERVED
2	RESERVED
3	DUBAI
4 DOLBY DIGITAL	DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
5	DEUCE BIGALOW-2

METROPOLIS stAR
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 5433994

1	BLADE OF THE ROSE
2	DUBAI
3	RESERVED
4	RESERVED
5 DOLBY	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
6	LORD OF WAR

stARmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(LAS PINAS) tel. 8735004

1 DOLBY	PERFECT CATCH
2	

Filinvest Festival Cinema
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 DOLBY	LORD OF WAR
2 SDDS	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
3 DTS	INTO THE BLUE
4 GOLD DTS	40 YEARS OLD VIRGIN
5 GOLD DOLBY	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
6 GOLD SDDS	LORD OF WAR
7 GOLD DOLBY	WALLACE & GROMIT
8 DOLBY	DUBAI
9 DIGITAL	DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
10 DIGITAL	THE TRANSPORTER-2

Blue Wave
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927

1 DOLBY	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2 DOLBY	DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
3 DOLBY	LORD OF WAR
4 DOLBY	DUBAI

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto tel 7334228

1 DIGITAL	DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
2	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
3	RESERVED
4	CINE MANILA FILMS FESTIVAL
5	INTO THE BLUE

Mandaluyong Marquina
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	DUBAI
2	THE CAVE
3	HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
4	RESERVED

Masagana Cinema
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274

1	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2	LORD OF WAR
3	DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2

Center Mall Cinema
Bagulo Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)

1	DUBAI
2	DEUCE BIGALOW-2

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 DOLBY EX	THE DESCENT
2	DUBAI
3 DTS EX	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
4	BLADE OF THE ROSE

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

1	DUBAI
2	THE CAVE
3 DOLBY	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
4 DTS	THE CROW-4

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489

1	DUBAI
2	LAND OF THE DEAD
3 DOLBY	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
4 DTS	THE CROW-4

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	DUBAI
2	PERFECT CATCH

Eastwood Cinemas
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72

1 DOLBY	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2 DOLBY	WALLACE & GROMIT
3 DOLBY	LORD OF WAR
4 DOLBY	40 YEARS OLD VIRGIN

Cinema 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	DUBAI
2 DTS	THE TRANSPORTER-2
3 DOLBY	LORD OF WAR
4	DEUCE BIGALOW-2

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	DUBAI
2 DOLBY	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
3 DTS	THE TRANSPORTER-2
4	LORD OF WAR

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2	DUBAI
3 DOLBY	THE BROTHERS GRIMM

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1	LAND OF THE DEAD
2	DUBAI
3 DOLBY	THE CAVE
4 DTS	DEUCE BIGALOW-2

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320

1	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2	DUKE OF HAZZARDS
3 DOLBY	DUBAI

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 SDDS	CIA INTELEGENCE
2	ARAY
3	KISKISAN
4 DTS	THE GREAT RAID

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 DIGITAL	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2	DUBAI
3 DTS	THE TRANSPORTER-2
4	CIA INTELEGENCE
5	LORD OF WAR

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	LAND OF THE DEAD
2	DEUCE BIGALOW-2
3	PERFECTS CATCH
4	DUBAI

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1	THE CAVE
2	KAKAIBANG KARISMA

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

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CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

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GALLERIA 632-9178

1 TRANSPORTER 2 • THX
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

3 LORD OF WAR
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

4 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

5 WALLACE AND GROMIT
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

6 CORPSE BRIDE
12:00 1:50 3:50 5:50 7:50 9:50

7 LAND OF THE DEAD
1:20 3:40 5:50 8:00 10:00

8 INTO THE BLUE
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

9 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

10 A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

ERMITA 536-7809 to 21

1 LORD OF WAR
10:10 12:25 2:45 5:05 7:25 10:00

2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
10:20 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:30 9:50

3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
10:20 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:30 9:50

4 C U T 11:00 1:00
TRABAHO 3:10 5:10
DILIM 7:40 9:50

5 ANG DAAN PATUNGONG KALIMUGTONG 11:00 1:00
ALA VERDE ALA POBRE 3:00 5:30
MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE AND JOHN 8:00 9:50

6 TULI 11:00 1:10 3:20
ILUSYON 5:45 7:55 10:00

7 LILIA FOREVER
TOGETHER
THE KING /PALERMO HOLLYWOOD

METRO EAST 682-8193 / 682-8199

1 WALLACE AND GROMIT
11:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:10

2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
11:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:10

3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

4 INTO THE BLUE
12:20 2:30 4:40 6:50 9:00

5 LORD OF WAR
1:05 3:45 5:25 9:15

6 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
1:40 4:00 6:20 9:00

7 TRANSPORTER 2
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

8 WILD SIDE
1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

NOVALICHES 931-4228 / 930-3228-30

1 INTO THE BLUE
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 TRANSPORTER 2

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-257 & PIONEER 687-5378

1 INTO THE BLUE
2 THE DESCENT
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

1 LORD OF WAR
2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
3 WALLACE AND GROMIT
4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2

CHECK THIS OUT ▸▸

ROBINSONS CINEMAS Novaliches

Now oPen!

STA ROSA (049) 837-0907 LIPA (043) 757-3884 (043) 312-5870

1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
3 THE DESCENT
4 LORD OF WAR

1 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
2 LAND OF THE DEAD
3 THE BROTHERS GRIMM
4 THE PERFECT CATCH

DASMARIÑAS (046) 862-2125 (046) 418-4332 ANGELES (045) 892-2348

1 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
2 SIX
3 THE PERFECT CATCH
4 THE CONSTANT GARDENER

1 BLADE OF THE ROSE
2 THE DESCENT
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 THE CROW 4

IMUS (046) 876-3838 (046) 471-8189 STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-6276

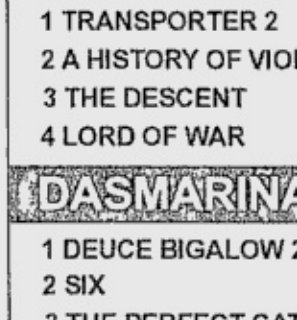
1 LORD OF WAR
2 THE BROTHERS GRIMM
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

1 THE DESCENT
2 INTO THE BLUE
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 THE PERFECT MAN
5 THE CROW 4
6 LORD OF WAR

BACOLOD 034 / 441-0459 ILOILO (033) 338-8070

1 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
2 DARK WATER
3 THE PERFECT CATCH
4 A SOUND OF THUNDER
5 HONEY
6 THE PERFECT MAN

1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 THE PERFECT MAN
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
4 DEUCE BIGALOW



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A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

AYALA CENTER GLORIETTA • Greenbelt

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

AYALA MALLS LoveMall!

TIMEZONE celebrates Disney

These collectible Powercards are available for P200. This shall be inclusive of P175 worth of game load plus 5 free games.

NOW AVAILABLE! Mickey & Friends In THE MOOD COLLECT ALL 6!

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At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
PDI Jobz Employment Expo October 17 to 19	Pony Ride Promo October 16, 22, 23, 29, 30 Blims / Automatic Center Exhibit October 17 to 28	USC Fine Arts Dept.'s Fashion Show October 17

AYALA GREENBELT

Manila, My Manila Photo Exhibit featuring the Finalists' Entries
September 30 to October 30 - GB 3 Ground Floor Lobby,
GB 3 Ground Floor Lobby & Casa Armas Restaurant

GREENBELT Onstage AYALA CENTER

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents
THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES
at REP's GLOBE THEATER
October 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 30
For inquiries, please call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM

Registration for Art Workshops now on-going at Ayala Museum
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29.
Online registration at www.ayalamuseum.org

AYALA CINEMAS

AYALA CINEMAS

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

THX

Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729 7777

G1 GLORIETTA 1
1 LORD OF WAR | 2 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 3 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN | 4 DUBAI

G4 GLORIETTA 4
1 CORPSE BRIDE | 2 INTO THE BLUE | 3 THX LORD OF WAR 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS
4 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2 | 5 WALLACE & GROMIT | 6 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 7 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN

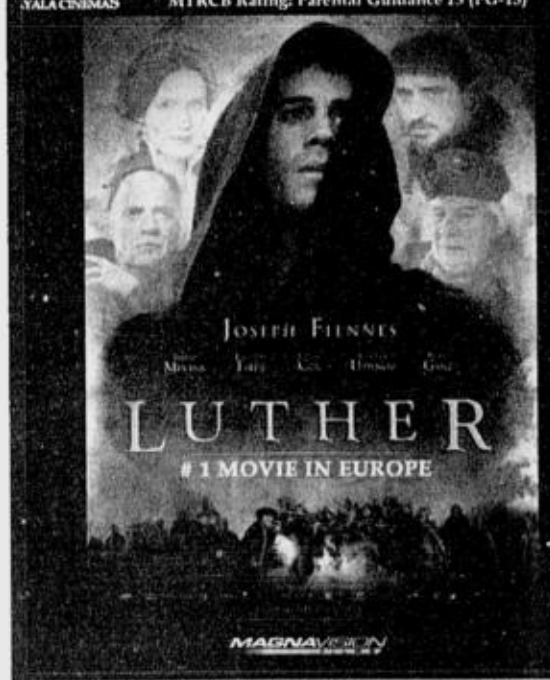
GB1
1 LORD OF WAR 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10 | 2 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO 12:25, 2:25, 4:25, 6:25, 8:25

GB3
1 THX LORD OF WAR 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00 GUARANTEED SEATS | 2 THX DEUCE BIGALOW:EUROPEAN GIGOLO 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS
3 INTO THE BLUE 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS | 4 CORPSE BRIDE 1:20, 3:10, 5:00, 6:50, 8:40, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS | 5 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:55, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 THX DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 2 LORD OF WAR
3 DUBAI | 4 WALLACE & GROMIT | 5 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN

ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
1 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 2 LORD OF WAR | 3 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN | 4 DUBAI

AYALA CINEMAS
OPENS OCTOBER 19 EXCLUSIVELY AT AYALA CINEMAS
MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13 (PG-13)



AYALA CINEMAS

AN AYALA CINEMAS HALLOWEEN PARTY

WEEKEND FRIGHT FEST

October 7 - October 22, 2005

For every four (4) single purchase of movie tickets from October 7 - 22 entitles the moviegoers to an invitation to the Weekend Fright Fest on October 23 (Sunday) at the Glorietta 4 Cinema Lobby. Enjoy Ayala Cinemas' Halloween Party!

Wear your Halloween Costume & be part of the games and Trick or Treat Parade!

Original Chicken Sandwich | Burger King | Coca-Cola

Per DTI-NCR Permit no. A2-455 Series of 2005

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service text hotline: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm
Greenbelt - 757 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

All-Digital Cinemas

MARKET! MARKET!

The fun is in the finds

Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.
Customer Service Hotline: 0917 6095900

Free Seating Cinemas: P80.00

1 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO
2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
3 WALLACE & GROMIT
4 DUBAI
5 LORD OF WAR

EVENTS! EVENTS!

MARKET! MARKET! Bonifacio Global City

The fun is in the finds

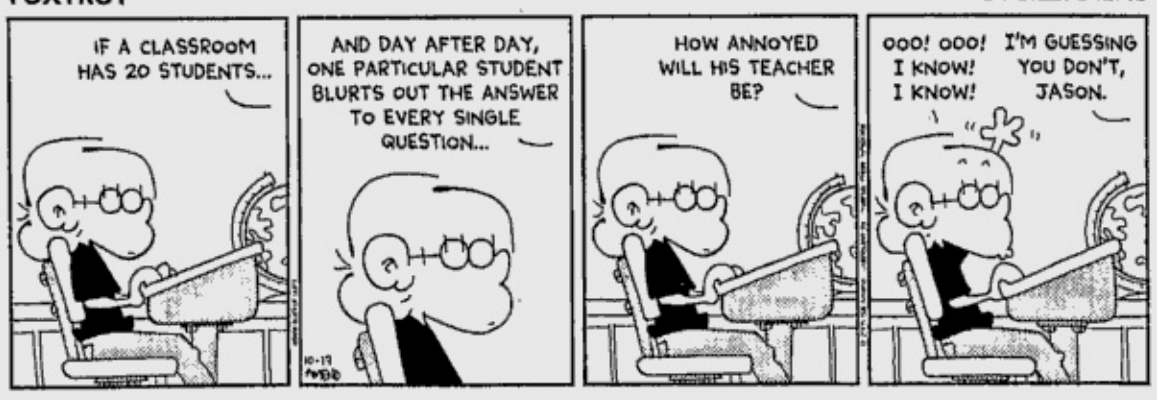
sale! sale!

Sept. 16 - Oct. 16

Extended Mall Hours:
Oct. 14 (Friday) 10 am to 10 pm
Oct. 15 (Saturday) 10 am to 12 mn
Oct. 16 (Sunday) 10 am to 10 pm

Per DTI-NCR Permit no. A2-455 Series of 2005

FOXTROT BY BILL AMEND



A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA

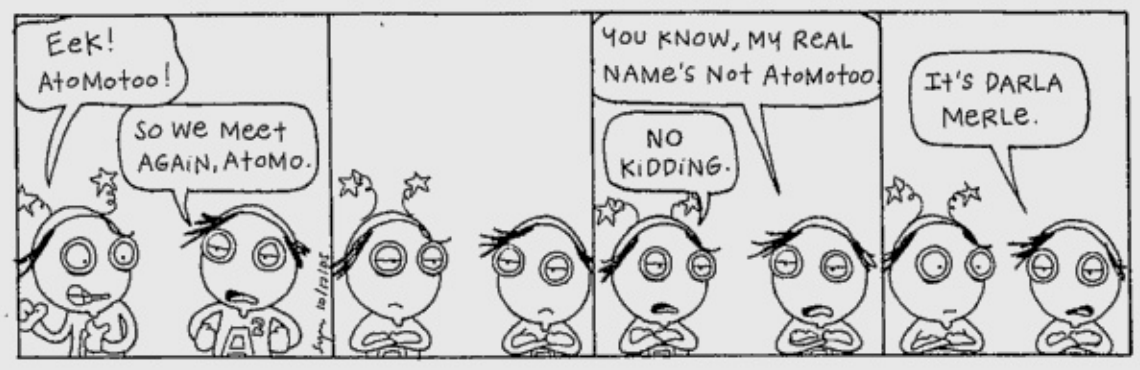
MARVIN BY TOM ARMSTRONG

PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT

MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL

ATOMO AND WEBOY BY LYRA GARCELLANO



DIVINE COMEDY BY STEVEN PABALINAS

ANG DAHILAN KUNG BAKIT KINAINGGITAN SI JOSEPH NG KANYANG MGA KAPATID

MIKROKOSMOS BY JOMIKE TEJIDO

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're bold and daring! You live life on the edge because you want adventure and constant stimulation. It makes you feel more alive. Ironically, in some ways you don't like change. You're attached to your rituals and habits. Increased solitude this year will allow you to study or learn something important for your future. **Birthdate of:** Alan Jackson, singer; Evel Knievel, stunt daredevil; Arthur Miller, playwright.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Today's Full Moon is a lunar eclipse, and it takes place in your sign. This could put stress on your closest relationships and partnerships. Just be as patient as you can be.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): It's a stressful day at work today because of today's Full Moon. Your doubts or insecurities can make you feel hesitant at work. On the other hand, don't act if you don't feel good about something.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Disruptions to friendships and dealing with groups are likely today. That's because today's Full Moon puts stress in these areas of your life. Don't expect too much from others. (Not today.)

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): This is a very poor day to deal with authority figures. Be patient with parents and teachers as well. Today's Full Moon makes it hard to please everyone. You're not quite sure what to do.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Travel delays and obstacles to educational matters or dealing with foreign countries are likely. Too many people are making demands on your time. Tell everyone to mellow out.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): It's hard to know how to share something today. Do you put your interests first, or those of someone else? By tomorrow you'll have a better idea of what to do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Today's Full Moon opposes your sign. This definitely puts increased pressure on close friendships, partnerships and relationships. Be gentle and patient.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Don't be demanding of co-workers today. Similarly, don't be a slave to the demands of others, either. Each Full Moon has different tensions. This month's Full Moon stresses your job.

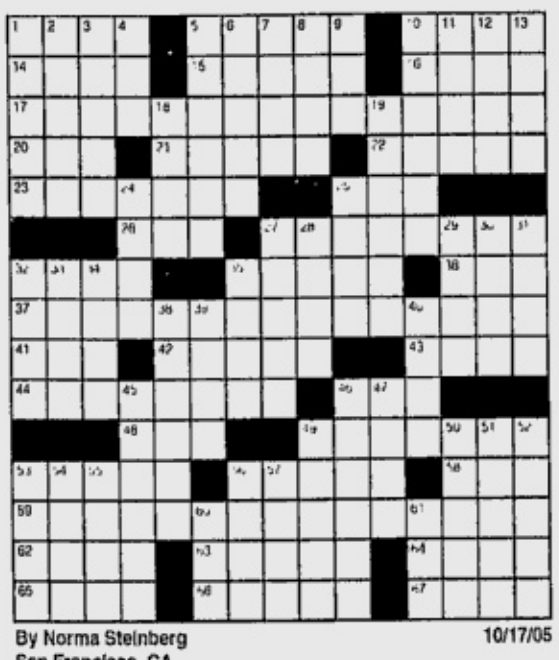
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Be careful of financial investments. Also, think twice about vacations, dealing with children and romantic situations. All of these areas are mildly stressed today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): You feel the classic tug-of-war between the demands of career and the demands of home and family today. You can't please everyone. In a few days, this struggle will be resolved.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Don't jump to conclusions today. Be patient with others, especially siblings. Today's Full Moon makes people edgy and nervous. Take precautions against accidents.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): The joke about "When the going gets tough, the tough go shopping," might apply to you today! Be careful with money and possessions.

DAILY CROSSWORD



By Norma Steinberg
San Francisco, CA

10/17/05

ACROSS
1 Duo
5 "Lady of __"
10 Lamenter's cry
14 Gudrun's victim
15 Flexible joint
16 Capital of Italia
17 React quickly with music?
20 Sigma follower
21 Following
22 Washer cycle
23 Deodorant sites
25 Bro's sib
26 Even one
27 Look like
32 Fashionable
35 "The Zoo Story" dramatist
36 Key near ctrl
37 Music on the Mediterranean?
41 __ we there yet?
42 College girls
43 Tennis star Arthur
44 Professional rubber
46 Voight or Stewart
48 Under the weather
49 Amassed slowly
53 John Hersey's bell town
56 Swiped
58 Three-match connection
59 Where music comes from?
62 About
63 At hand
64 Ceremony
65 Cherished
66 Noah or Wallace
67 Boat beam

DOWN
1 Linguini or penne
2 Fighting battles
3 Troy
4 __ Tin Tin
5 Devious
6 Ice cream measures
7 Feed the kitty
8 Borodin opera, "Prince __"
9 Teachers' org.
10 Hopper or Whistler
11 Meat cut
12 Novelist Oz
13 Of sound mind
18 Put on weight
19 Ukrainian peninsula
24 Word with blaster or ice
25 Fortuneteller
27 Playground attraction
28 Diminishes
29 Feedbag grain
30 Not enthused
31 Raison d'__
32 Study hard
33 Israeli folk dance
34 Frosts
35 Mellows
38 Nocturnal wildcat
39 Sports infraction
40 Narrow road
45 Transgressor
46 Automotive heap
47 Finished
49 To date
50 Motherless calf
51 Combine together
52 Committee
53 Kind of test
54 Completed
55 Halo
56 "Auld Lang __"
57 Schlep
60 Sir Walter Scott novel, "__ Roy"
61 Tick off

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

R	A	P	P	E	R		A	P	O	S	T	A	T	E
A	Q	U	I	L	A		G	A	R	T	E	R	E	D
T	U	R	G	I	D		I	N	C	I	T	I	N	G
S	A	P		S	I	D	L	E		P	R	O	N	E
B	R	O	C	H	U	R	E		T	E	A	S	E	R
A	I	R	B	A	S	E		S	U	N	D	E	R	S
N	U	T	S			S	P	E	N	D	S			
E	M	S		C	A	S	T	L	E	S		P	A	W
			H	E	V	E	A	L			L	E	N	A
O	F	T	E	N	E	R		O	B	V	E	R	T	S
P	R	E	T	O	R		B	U	R	E	T	T	E	S
P	O	S	I	T		B	A	T	O	N		A	N	A
O	S	T	R	A	C	O	D		G	E	M	I	N	I
S	T	E	E	P	I	N	G		A	T	O	N	A	L
E	Y	E	S	H	A	D	F		N	O	O	S	E	S

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10/17/05

BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON

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Ozamiz gains NBC finals

OZAMIZ CITY—HOST OZAMIZ COTTA nipped defending champion Tribu Sugbu, 74-73, Saturday at the Gov. Angel Medina Sr. gym here to win the Southern Conference title and arrange a showdown with the Cavite Insurers for the 2005 Panasonic-NBC national basketball crown.

Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's cagers led 30-15 after 10 minutes, but they had to ward off a fierce comeback by the Skygo/Sirlitz-backed Tribesmen in the ensuing periods to take Game 3 of the best-of-three series.

An air-tight defense built around Ozamiz big men Christian Nicdao, Toto Delina and Philip Butel hounded the Cebuanos all-game long and doomed their bid to keep the southern and national titles.

The 6-foot-5 Delina, the NBC slam-dunk champion who was a non-factor in the first two games, limited Tribu's leading scorer Marvin Mercado to three points and helped his team control the boards.

Tribu coach Al Solis admitted that Delina gave him "the biggest headache" and praised Ozamiz mentor Albert Calvo for "gambling on Delina."

The Cebuanos cut Ozamiz's 15-point lead to two, 39-37, at the turn and even led 42-39 early in the third. But Ozamiz regrouped and surged ahead again 57-51, going into the fourth.

Ozamiz opened a 71-60 edge with 1:09 left and then weathered Tribu's rally in the dying seconds. Ozamiz was ahead 74-70 when Alex Cainglet fired a buzzer-beating triple to finalize the count.

The scores:

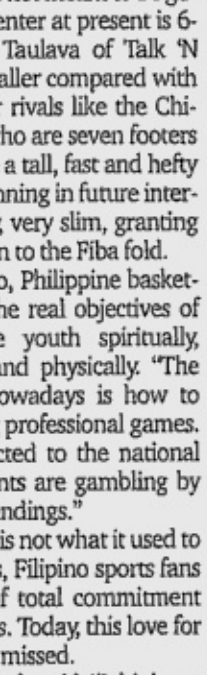
OZAMIZ 74—Bansil 16, Sampilo 14, Alberto 10, Nicdao 6, Delina 6, Cabigkis 6, Llangco 5, Alvarado 5, Ilanga 3, Butel 2.

TRIBU 73—Ursal 29, Cainglet 11, Mangubat 7, Ferraren 7, Almacin 5, Mercado 3, Guerrero 3, Bucao 2, Ignacio 2, Luga 2, Pening 2.

Quarters: 30-15, 39-37, 57-51, 74-73

Ban on BAP a 'blessing in disguise'

CLEAN LIVING



Manolo R. Iñigo

RETIRED COLONEL Julian Malonso, a former POC president and the country's No. 1 sports critic, is at it again.

A man of zeal and erudition, Malonso, who will turn 82 tomorrow, said: "It is a blessing in disguise that the BAP (Basketball Association of the Philippines) was suspended by the Fiba (international basketball federation)." Basketball is not the sport for the Filipinos because height counts a lot, he stressed. "We should concentrate more on sports where height is not an advantage. We should participate in sports where we have better chances of winning."

As I have said again and again, basketball is a tall man's game. We should accept the fact that the Filipinos are not meant to be genetically tall. Our best center at present is 6-foot-10 Fil-Tongan Asi Taulava of Talk 'N Text. Yet Asi is much smaller compared with the other centers of our rivals like the Chinese and the Koreans, who are seven footers or taller. Unless we have a tall, fast and hefty team, our chances of winning in future international events are very, very slim, granting that we are able to return to the Fiba fold.

According to Malonso, Philippine basketball is deviating from the real objectives of sports to educate the youth spiritually, morally, intellectually and physically. "The dream of the youth nowadays is how to make money by playing professional games. They refuse to be selected to the national team. And many students are gambling by betting on the (scores) endings."

Philippine basketball is not what it used to be. In the good old days, Filipino sports fans were always assured of total commitment from our national cagers. Today, this love for country has been sorely missed.

As one old-timer recently said, "I think our national players are afraid of hurting themselves lest they lose a possible career in the Philippine Basketball Association." How true.

* * *

FEU'S LEGACY LIVES ON. There is no question that Far Eastern University has contributed a lot in promoting sports development in the country. Aside from being the first UAAP men's basketball champions in 1938-1939, many FEU athletes also competed in the Olympic Games.

In the Berlin Olympics of 1936, five FEU athletes carried the national colors, namely, boxers Jose "Pempe" Padilla, who later became a movie idol; Felipe Gabuco, Oscar Larrazabal and Simplicio de Castro and broad jumper Niño T. Ramirez. In the 1948 London Games, FEU contributed boxers Ernesto Porto and Ricardo Adolfo, legendary weightlifter Rodrigo del Rosario, who won fifth place in the featherweight division; and basketball players Manolet Araneta, Andy dela Cruz and Ding Fulgencio. Four years later in the Helsinki Olympics, Del Rosario finished fourth while another FEU weightlifter, Pedro Landero, landed fifth in the bantamweight category. Also in Helsinki, FEU boxers who saw action were Al Asuncion, Alejandro Ortuoste and Porto and basketball players Antonio Tantay, Jose Gochangco and Meliton Santos. Basketball idol Gerry Cruz represented FEU in the 1960 Rome Olympics.

Tamaraw Bayani Amador from Biñan, Laguna, was a member of the Philippine team that won a record-setting third place in the 1954 World Basketball Championship in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. In baseball, FEU had great national players like Ireneo Diaz, Manuel Mariquit and Ernesto Adorable. In track and field, FEU's best and brightest included sprinter Mona Sulaiman, long jump sensation Lolita Lagrosas and the fabled Lydia de Vega-Mercado.

Incidentally, the PSA awardee for track in 1950 was Bernabe Lovina not Bernabe Lovian as erroneously published recently.

(To be continued)

Editor Emmie G. Velarde
E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

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Cutting 'Tuli'

Auraeus Solito, director of the unratable film says his 'baby was disemboweled'

DESIREE del Valle plays a barrio lass resigned to her fate in the right-of-passage movie, 'Tuli.'

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

IT WAS THE UNKINDEST CUT OF all.

This was the sentiment of independent filmmaker Auraeus Solito, who claimed that his second film "Tuli," an entry to the 7th Cinemanila International Film Festival, was cut without his permission by producer Viva Films.

"It was a horrible experience," Solito told INQUIRER Entertainment. "It's like seeing your baby get disemboweled."

He was so upset, he disowned the film now shown in theaters.

A few months ago, Solito's feature film debut "Ang Pagdadalaga ni Maximo Oliveros," had won top prizes at the Cinemalaya and Montreal Film Festivals.

In this case, the Cinema Evaluation Board (CEB) deemed the submitted "Tuli," "unratable," according to Vincent del Rosario, EVP for Viva Entertainment.

Solito explained that they had been pressured to finish the film so it could be submitted to CEB and the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB). "How can you create a masterpiece in two days?" he bristled.

He recalled that after June Rufino, representing Viva, came in and started cutting scenes from the film, "I walked out and instructed my editors to remove my name from the credits." (The editors complied, according to Solito.)

"Because of time constraints, we decided to do the editing ourselves after Auraeus left," Del Rosario said.

No lesbian kiss

"Viva wanted seven scenes cut," Solito said. "And I was willing to cut three of those scenes."

Among those scenes were a "lesbian kiss," a ribald joke about the crucified Christ and the use of the cross to represent the letter T in the movie's title.

"I was shocked when Viva asked that the lesbian kiss be cut," Solito said. "It was very poetic. And the other sexy scene was only implied. The film had no nudity whatsoever. I thought we would only be given an R-13 or R-18. Instead, we were slapped with an X by the MTRCB."

First time

"In the 20 years Viva has been in the business, we have never meddled in the creative process," Del Rosario said. "Auraeus had the chance [to edit his film]. It's just that his version didn't fit the requirements of the MTRCB and CEB. We give [our artists] creative freedom until our interests are compromised and getting an X is inimical to our business interests."

(An X-rated film will never have the chance to get shown commercially.)

Tikoy Aguiluz, festival director of Cinemanila, was saddened by Solito's dilemma. "I am also having difficulties with the theaters because 70 percent of this year's Cinemanila movies have an R rating and SM malls have yet to lift its ban on R-18 movies."

He offered a solution: "In Singapore, they have an R-A rating, meaning Restricted Artistic. It's for rated R films that have artistic merit."

Aguiluz also expressed the hope that the "obsolete" law (PD 1986) governing the MTRCB will be reviewed and revised.

"It's Marcosian [a product of Ferdinand Marcos' martial-law regime]," said award-winning filmmaker Mel Chionglo. "Festival films should not be covered by the MTRCB."

"We always strive for a censorship-free festival," Aguiluz said. "In fact, in the past we've shown a lot of controversial films like 'The Isle' and 'Lies' from South Korea. Even foreign embassies have problems whenever they come up with festivals here like Cine Europa. It's an embarrassment."

Director's cut

Solito admitted that his indie roots had not prepared him for mainstream/studio filmmaking. "I was so disappointed and disillusioned. But to be fair to Viva, I was given a director's cut," Solito said. "I hope the Cinemanila jurors will get to watch my version."

"We extended him the courtesy of having an 'international version' that he can show in the festival circuit abroad," Del Rosario said.

"He can also screen the director's cut at the UP Cine Adarna in Diliman and the Cultural Center of the Philippines which are not covered by the MTRCB," Aguiluz said.

Solito actually asked people to boycott his film.

"I only asked my friends not to watch it," he said. "I was surprised when I got all this support from different people."

Against all odds, Aguiluz is hoping for the best for the Cinemanila film fest. "We wish the public would support the festival and the theaters would not act as tough as the Censors," he said.

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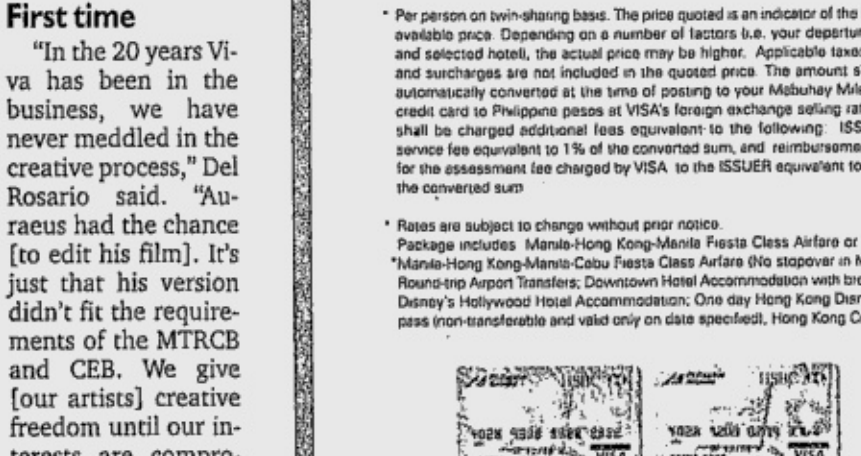

No to politics, yes to helping people

Mel and Arnold prefer to serve the country as broadcasters

By Marinel R. Cruz

ARNOLD Clavio: If I run for public office, it would be like betraying public trust.

NOLI (DE CASTRO) knows... *kahit kaibigan ko s'ya, babanatan ko s'ya* (he's my friend but I will hit him hard)... he cannot misbehave. I'm a no-nonsense person. I will not take irregularities in the government sitting down. *Walang kaibi-kaibigan,*" said news anchor Mel Tiangco.

The multi-awarded broadcast journalist also maintained that she could never be convinced to try politics—not even by her pals, including Vice President De Castro and former Sen. Loren Legarda, who were both broadcasters before running for public office.

"I worked with them for 10 years," Mel told a group of writers during her visit to Davao City last week. "Ted Failon served as a representative of Leyte. I'm the only one left."

She added: "I think politics is corrupt. Many had the best intentions when they first entered the field, but the system sort of sucked them in. And... I don't want that to happen to me. I like myself now."

After all, Mel said, she could serve her country "in a freer way than many politicians." She is executive director of GMA 7's Kapuso Foundation, she anchors the top-rating news program "24 Oras" and hosts the drama anthology "Magpakailanman," featuring true stories of celebrities.

"I feel that people trust me," she said. "I'm popular and, to a certain extent, I have power, too."

Broadcaster Arnold Clavio shared Mel's point of view. He explained: "If I run for public office, it would be like betraying public trust. People depend on me; everywhere I go, they come to me."

Arnold put up the Igan Foundation in 2003. He is also host of the early morning show, "Unang Hirit," and anchor of the late night news program "Saksi: Liga ng Katotohanan" with Vicky Morales.

He added that only when Filipinos had become "politically mature" would he join politics.

"I have a friend who's now a sectoral representative. He used to be a dignified man, *pero kinain na ng sistema*," Arnold shared. "People think all politicians are corrupt. I dream of the time when everyone will again believe the government is run by respectable and trustworthy people."

Mel and Arnold said they had found fulfillment in running their respective charitable organizations. Mel's Kapuso Foundation provides medical, nutritional, educational and relief assistance wherever these are needed, whenever possible. Igan Foundation aims to collect funds to build "Paraiso ni Igan," where young cancer patients can rest or play between chemotherapy sessions.

"In 1984, I went up in the mountains of Mindoro and lived with a Mangyan tribe for a couple of days. I saw with my own eyes what it's like to have nothing," Mel recalled. "The group listened to my radio program and wrote to me. I was touched. Their only request was that I help them put up a school. That served as a catalyst for creating the foundation."

Arnold said a golf buddy inspired him to set up Igan Foundation. "He died of cirrhosis of the liver. He told me, 'Arnold, you're always willing to lend a hand. Why don't you put up a charitable institution so that more people can help you help others?' And that's exactly what I did."

MEL Tiangco: I've seen what it's like to have nothing.

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DID YOU KNOW...

LEA SALONGA, ROB CHIEN AND THE happiest of them all—Lea's mom Ligaya.

The Tony-winning international star is seven weeks pregnant, Ligaya confirmed last week. They've suspected it for some time, but decided to make the announcement only after a visit to a Makati obstetrics-gynecologist where they heard the baby's heartbeat. Lea is expected to give birth in May 2006. But where—LA, New York or Manila—the couple have not decided. The infanticipating family are in the US for Lea's concert in LA this month and her Carnegie Hall debut on Nov. 7 in New York City.

Life is a menu

"EVERYDAY PEOPLE" IS AN INTIMATE ensemble drama that tells the interconnected stories of a group of racially diverse New Yorkers who rub elbows at an imperiled Brooklyn diner. It provides a rich, slice-of-life portrait of people thrown together in pain and love, who generate disturbing conflicts and surprising bonds.

Ira, the owner of Raskins, a long established diner in a changing Brooklyn neighborhood bows to economic pressure and decides to close his restaurant, selling the location to an aggressive developer.

The film, an official selection at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival, looks beyond this transaction and into the hearts of the men and women whose lives are forever altered by the deal.

"Everyday People" considers what the closure of the diner would mean to the diverse, individual characters that gather at the diner. Among them are long-serving maitre d' Arthur; single mum cashier, Joleen; kitchen help Samuel who's moving on to college; poet-in-training cum waitress Erin; Jewish former doctor-turned-ex-con-turned-dishwasher, Sol; aggressive black broker Ron and Erin's upper-middle-class mother Betty.

As the movie unfolds, unspoken thoughts and deep-seated attitudes rise to the surface. These individuals collide in love and pain, generating disturbing conflicts and surprising bonds—all of which challenge conventional assumptions about class and racial identity.

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Tricks of the trade

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

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Worse, some producers sign up talents to exclusive contracts just to prevent rival producers from using those promising starlets! After the contract is signed, the new talent is put on the shelf for months or even years, wasting valuable time and momentum.

Some young talents are required to drop out of school so they can "concentrate" on their careers. When nothing happens, even their education is uselessly jeopardized.

Finally, you should be leery of people who promise you instant stardom. It's far better to take your time honing your talent with lessons and workshop productions, so you'll be good and ready when the big breaks do come.

Even if you're starting to make it, don't think that you're home free. The competition can be so intense and vicious that you need to keep your guard up. Also remember that you'll have to cope with the gossip and intrigue that infest show business.

However, if you're serious and regard performing as a career rather than just a fun, profitable thing to do, you can go places without having been severely exploited by the many tricksters in the performing trade.

On Discovery Channel

THE NEW season of "Mythbusters" started telecasting on Discovery Channel last Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 9 p.m. The popular show that either confirms or debunks urban legends is hosted by **Adam Savage** and **Jamie Hyneman.**

In each episode, Adam and Jamie use scientific experiments, special effects and a crash-test dummy named Buster to prove or disprove urban myths.

This season, the show puts these myths to the test: Is it really that hard to find a needle in a haystack? Is it possible to salvage a sunken ship by filling it with ping-pong balls? Can a car be speed radar-proof?

Can a gust of wind actually carry a small child who is holding a large bunch of balloons? Does "killer" quicksand really exist, and do movie depictions of the substance hold true?

Another Discovery Channel show, "Risk Takers," is a three-day (Oct. 12-14) special telecast at 10 p.m. The special highlights the men and women whose work requires them to put their lives on the line—policemen going after drug dealers, SWAT team members dealing with hostage situations, bullfighters, rodeo clowns, etc!

Fab Four: Icons of the century

LOS ANGELES—THE BEATles were singled out on Friday as the most influential entertainers of the past 100 years, beating out Elvis Presley, Charlie Chaplin and Mickey Mouse, according to a survey conducted by show business newspaper Variety.

Behind the Fab Four's first-place finish, were and in alphabetical order: jazz pioneer Louis Armstrong, television comedienne Lucille Ball, movie legends Humphrey Bogart, Marlon Brando, Charlie Chaplin, James Dean and Marilyn Monroe, cartoon hero Mickey Mouse and singers Elvis Presley and Frank Sinatra.

Variety said the Beatles were named "Icons of the Century" because they were the entertainment personalities who made the biggest impact on the industry and the world in the past 100 years.

The newspaper published a list of 100 entertainers from all branches of show business, including actors, directors, screenwriters, musicians, television presenters, animals, comedians and cartoon characters. Among other names on the list were Johnny Carson, Johnny Cash and Lassie.

The winners were chosen by Variety editors based on polling of entertainment industry professionals and Variety staff and by online voting by the public on variety.com.

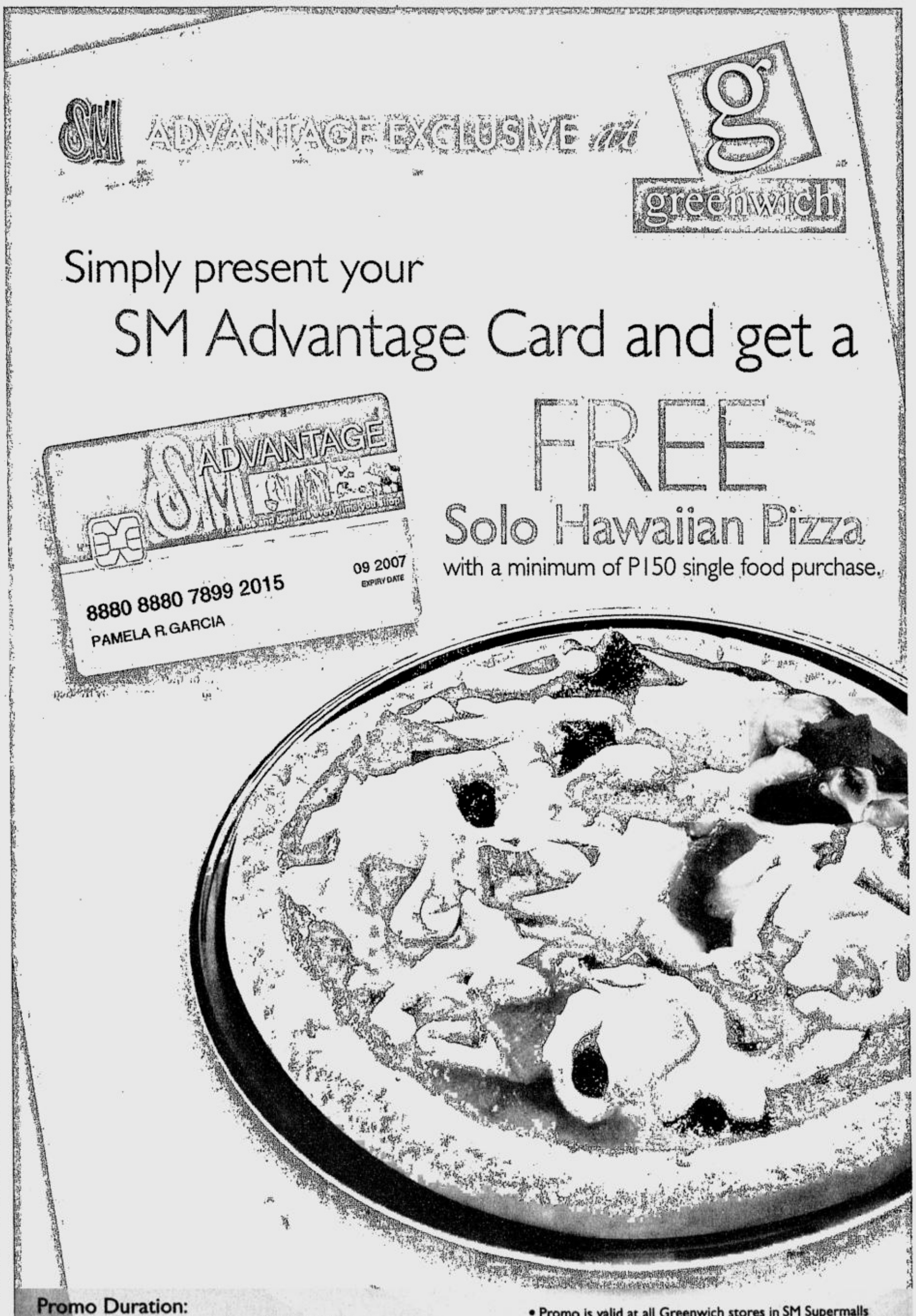
Among the criteria for selection were a performer's commercial, creative, political and social impact and even whether their image was presented—like James Dean's—on a T-shirt.

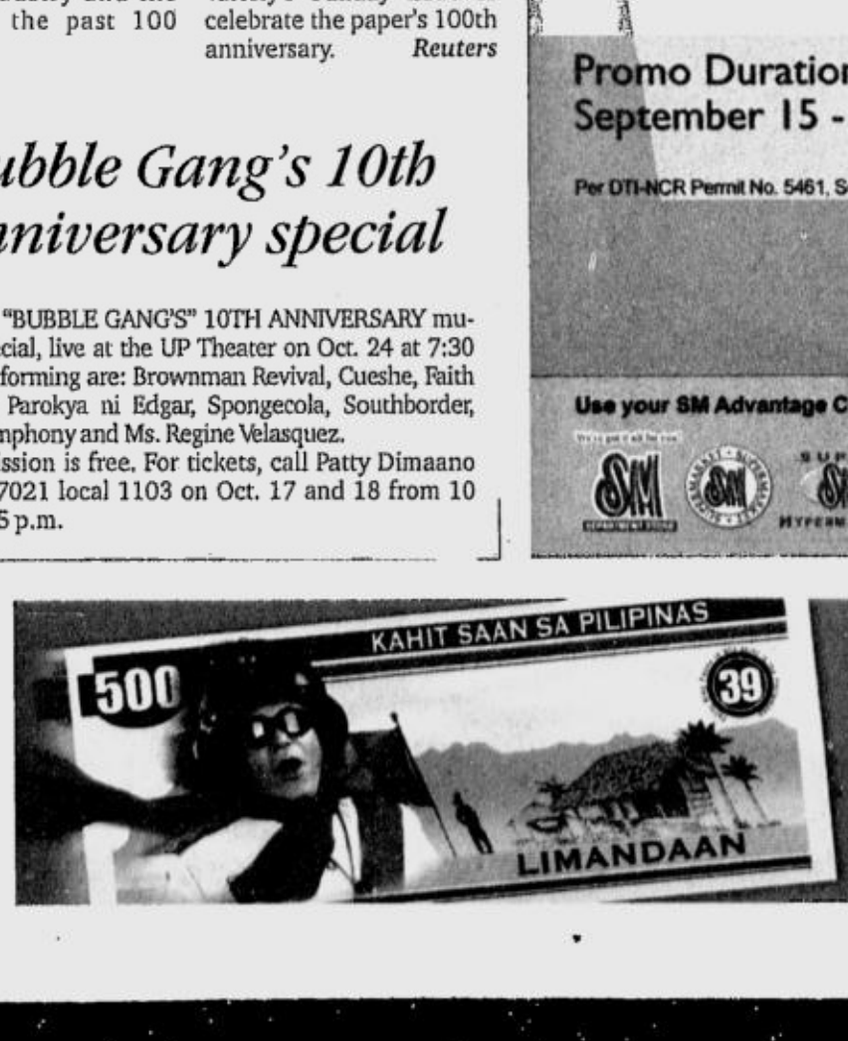
The list was published in Variety's Sunday issue to celebrate the paper's 100th anniversary. *Reuters*

Bubble Gang's 10th anniversary special

WATCH "BUBBLE GANG'S" 10TH ANNIVERSARY musical special, live at the UP Theater on Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m. Performing are: Brownman Revival, Cueshe, Faith Cuneta, Parokya ni Edgar, Spongecola, Southborder, Toys Symphony and Ms. Regine Velasquez.

Admission is free. For tickets, call Patty Dimaano at 928-7021 local 1103 on Oct. 17 and 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.





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April Boy leaves for US

But he'll be back with 'Isang Tawag Mo Lang'

By Jocelyn Valle, *Contributor*

JUST WEEKS AFTER APRIL BOY REGINO AND his family were granted US immigration visas last August, a robber broke into his house in Marikina City.

"And to think we already have a high fence," he said in Filipino. "It was a good thing my wife Madel and our kids were in the master bedroom. We were trying out our Magic Mike so we didn't hear anyone sneak into the terrace and enter the bedroom of [my son] John Christian on the second floor. His Nokia 7610 was taken."

The singer said he used to have a security guard in the house but gave up the service thinking he and his family were safe. Since the incident, he has reinstalled security and added padlocks around the house.

"I realized I made the right decision in applying for an immigration visa to the US. I am disturbed with what's happening in our country," he told INQUIRER Entertainment last Saturday.

April Boy was so upset about the incident, he wanted to keep his departure for the US (Oct. 7) hush-hush. "Somebody might bar me from leaving," he said. "It's true, I'm really scared."

The voice behind the pop hits "Di Ko Kayang Tanggapin" and "Paano ang Puso Ko" said it was during his 2003 concert tour in the US that he met lawyer Jemela A. Nettles, a Filipina married to an American national. Jemela, who specializes in immigration cases, suggested that he apply for a visa under the Extraordinary Ability category.

He wasn't interested at first, but after giving it some thought, decided to apply for a visa. In August 2004, the process started for the Reginos. After a year, their petitions were granted.

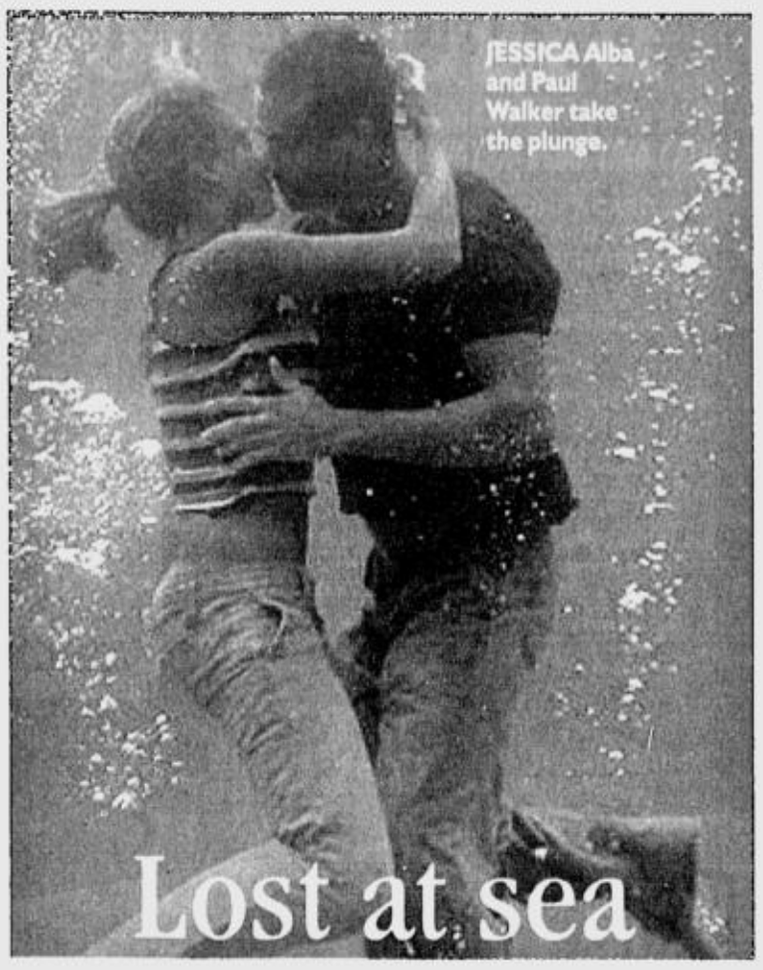
April Boy, whose mother and two siblings are already in the US, said he won't sell his properties just yet.

"We'll leave behind our house, cars, maids and drivers. We'll live with Tita Benny, the one who also helped Rustom Padilla settle there. We stayed with her during my first US tour," he said. "But it's OK. I will continue singing just like Lani Misalucha [who performs with the Society of Seven in Las Vegas]."

When news about his immigration came out, he received more offers to perform in the US. He's booked for shows in Hawaii, San Francisco, LA and Guam. As in the past, the tour will be a family affair, with his wife Madel taking charge of the sound system and his kids John Christian and Charmaine guesting in his gigs.

He said he would return to the country early next year to promote his album, "Isang Tawag Mo Lang."

APRIL Boy: Still upset about the break-in at his house



REVIEW

'Into the Blue' seems to have been made solely to show off Jessica Alba's body

LOS ANGELES—DIRECTOR JOHN STOCKWELL is lost at sea with "Into the Blue," a diving adventure with a severe case of the dramatic bends.

Like Stockwell's passable beach romance "Blue Crush," "Into the Blue" is a treasure trove of images of beautiful, bland people looking impossibly tanned and perfect against the bubbly surf. But the story is a long, tall glass of seawater, with characters mostly unlikable for their annoying self-absorption and supreme stupidity and action sequences as turgid and mucky as an offshore dredging operation.

At times, "Into the Blue" seems to exist solely to show off Jessica Alba's body. But realizing this isn't a Sports Illustrated swimsuit video, Stockwell and company string a silly tale of shipwrecks, fortune seekers and drug smugglers between eye-candy montages of Alba and co-star Paul Walker cavorting above and below the waves.

Walker's Jared is a mildly scruffy pretty boy living in a trailer in the Bahamas with girlfriend Sam (Alba), a shark handler at a nearby tourist resort.

Sam loves their quiet, uneventful, smoochy life, but Jared dreams of fixing up his rickety boat and searching for sunken vessels bearing lost riches.

He gets his chance when old college buddy Bryce (Scott Caan) comes for a visit with new girlfriend Amanda (Ashley Scott).

Off the couples go for some innocent diving adventures that lead to two discoveries—a 150-year-old shipwreck presumably containing hundreds of millions of dollars in treasure and a fortune in cocaine inside a cargo plane that crashed close by.

Our gang ends up in a whirlpool of trouble with the law, rival treasure hunters and drug runners.

Screenwriter Matt Johnson continues the tradition of inane action and cardboard characters he began with the racing thriller "Torque." Good guys and bad in "Into the Blue" behave with inexplicable idiocy.

Walker's Jared is such a boring lunkhead, it's impossible to care about his aspirations or his fate. His and Caan's frat-boy exchanges are grating.

Alba's saintly Sam musters some sympathy, but although she's the brains of the outfit, her bloodstream still seems to be running a tad low on oxygen.

Shane Hurlbut's cinematography buoys the movie, but lovely pictures of the actors swimming among sharks, jellyfish and shimmery aquatic vegetation cannot compensate for everything else.

Maybe Stockwell should try something on dry land. *AP*

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 WALLACE & GROMIT MTRCB. GP 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2 MTRCB. R-13. 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
3 LORD OF WAR MTRCB. R-13 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
4 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN MTRCB. R-13 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
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CINEMA 4 LORD OF WAR PG13 11:10, 1:35, 4:00, 6:25, 8:50
CINEMA 5 DEUCE BIGALOW 2 - R13 10:45, 12:40, 2:35, 4:30, 6:25, 8:20, 10:15
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Dismissal of tax evasion case 'worrisome'

BIR says charges vs former agri chief not yet over

By Daxim L. Lucas

THE TAX EVASION CHARGE AGAINST DHY REALty and Development Inc.—a company owned by the family of former Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap—was one of the strongest ever filed under the Arroyo administration's Run After Tax Evaders (RATE) program, according to its proponents.

Thus, many observers were caught by surprise when what was touted as the strongest tax evasion case was the first to be dismissed by state prosecutors.

Advocates of the RATE program now worry that the decision of the Department of Justice to dismiss last week the tax complaint against Yap's family bodes ill for the rest of the anti-tax evasion program.

Airtight case

The complaint against DHY Realty was filed with the justice department on June 16, 2005, when the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) was still headed by Commissioner Guillermo L. Parayno Jr. His boss was former Finance Secretary Cesar V. Purisima, who would lead the "Hyatt 10" Cabinet members less than a month later in resigning and calling for President Macapagal-Arroyo's resignation.

According to members of the RATE team, "extraordinary care" was taken while preparing the case against Yap and his family.

"This case went through a very rigorous process," Finance Undersecretary Emmanuel Bonoan said in an interview.

The BIR alleged that DHY Realty bought a 3,176-square meter property in Pasig City for P20.6 million, and revised the contract amount thrice—the final value of the transaction pegged at only P1 million—with the intent of avoiding tax liabilities.

Bonoan recalled that no less than Parayno insisted on going over the case more than once, sometimes playing the devil's advocate against his staff as he tried to dismantle their arguments. Being convinced that it would stand up to legal scrutiny, Parayno endorsed the case to Purisima, who approved its filing.

"Considering the people involved included a sitting Cabinet member, it went through a thorough process, more than the other cases," the finance deputy chief said. Like him, finance and tax officials believed that the case was airtight.

DISMISSAL/ B8

WHAT'S INSIDE

Court chains CX, Qantas /B3

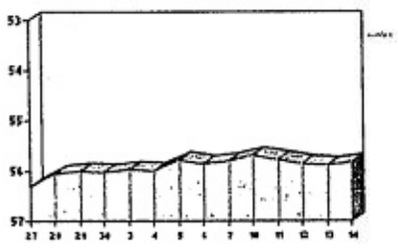
No Free Lunch
In search of political will /B2

CalPERS to start review of RP business climate /B10

Banks' real estate exposure slightly down to P184.3B /B11

Indicators

Currencies



SEPTEMBER OCTOBER

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱55.83 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Oct. 14, 2005

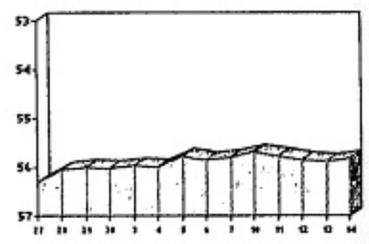
¥114.51 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Oct. 14, 2005

GOLD: **$471.30-471.80**
per ounce Hong Kong, Oct. 14, 2005

Stock Market

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX

SEPTEMBER OCTOBER



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Investors await profit reports

INVESTORS MAY REMAIN WARY THIS WEEK but still ready to pounce anytime on news of good third-quarter earnings, analysts said.

Online broker BPI Trade said in its weekly report that investors might be pleasantly distracted from soaring oil prices and the political uncertainty by expectations of favorable third-quarter corporate earnings.

"Investors may want to see a few net profit reports before they decide to buy in," BPI Trade said.

"We think that there is some position taking in the market as some investors anticipate a robust third-quarter performance. We also expect that investors will shift their focus from politics to earnings results once the companies start to announce their net income performance," BPI Trade said.

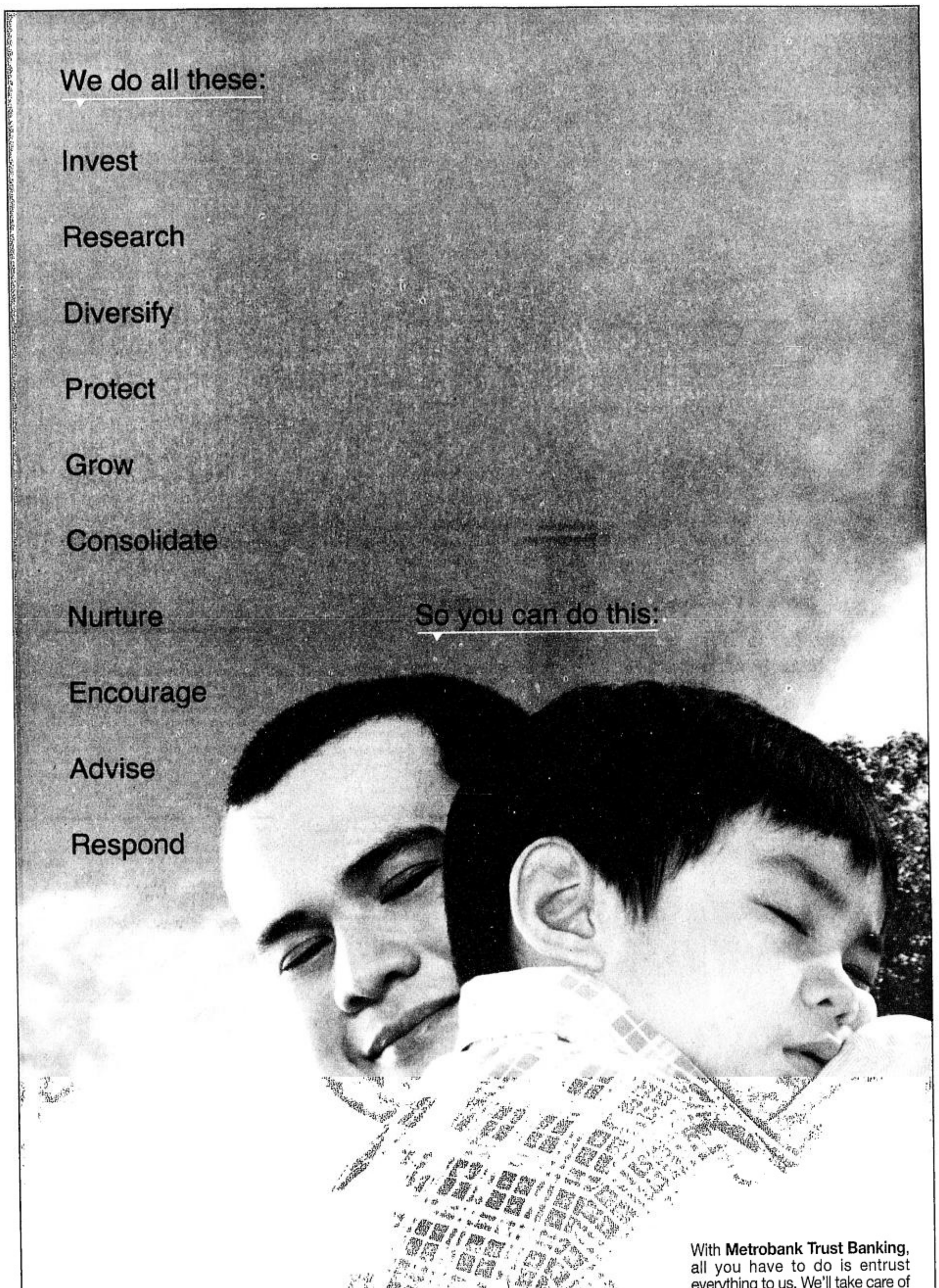
Third-quarter earnings are expected to be out by the end of this month or early next month.

Telecom giant Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. said it would release its January-September earnings results on Nov. 8. Its affiliate Pilipino Telephone Corp. (Piltel) will announce its net income on Nov. 7.

Ayala Corp. is slated to announce its earnings by Nov. 11.

"Investors may be expecting robust earnings. Earlier, Piltel said that the peso's

INVESTORS/ B8



In search of political will

WE KEEP HEARING AD NAUSEAM that political will is the missing element needed to get the right economic policies adopted or implemented.

The statement presupposes that the decision-makers know what they ought to be doing for the ultimate good of our country. They simply don't want to do it.

This is either because doing so may not be immediately popular, thus harming their own popularity or chances for reelection, or it may run counter to their own personal vested interests.

And so, for lack of political will, the Philippines remains mired in bad policies or bad policy implementation, and consequently, continued backwardness.

NO FREE LUNCH

Cielito F. Habito

Common good

Political will must be rooted in the values and preferences of the decision-maker. Ideally, these values and preferences must be based on the common good—that is, the greatest good of the greatest number—rather than just the individual personal welfare of the decision-maker.

The problem is that more often than not, the two do not come together in the decision-maker's mind. Humans, politicians included, are said to be inherently selfish. Their values and preferences are thus motivated first and foremost by own personal welfare.

While what is "right" is defined as what will promote the common good, what is right too often goes against promoting the decision-maker's own personal good.

Many years ago, I wrote about how a progressive agricultural land tax (i.e. one that gets steeper for larger landholdings) would complement the agrarian reform program, as it would lead large landowners to voluntarily sell their excess landholdings.

A lawmaker got interested in the idea and began requesting me to help draft legislation for it—but dropped it like a hot potato when she found out she had too many landlords among her colleagues who would never support the idea.

It was only much later that I learned that this was the reason I stopped getting calls from her office. The political will to push the idea was not there. Countless similar examples can be easily cited.

Linking the two

If people are to muster the political will to take the right decisions and actions for the country, they must first see that the common good redounds to their own personal good—and that hurting the common good will also harm their own personal good.

We need not talk only of politicians here.

The impatient driver who creates a new counter flow lane must find that by doing so, he only worsens the traffic jam and will only further delay himself along with everybody else.

The high-income professional who conceals his true income from the tax authorities must be made to see that his behavior ultimately makes life harder for himself when the entire economy slows down due to lack of government revenues.

Barring these, the only way to change their behavior is to arrest them and make them suffer more directly, and more promptly.

Leadership, incentives

What would it take to get people to act in the interest of the common good, as if it were for their own personal good?

Having the right leadership is crucial. Society's leaders, starting with the President, must clearly embody this ethic for the common good. By their leaders' example, those who are led are likely to assimilate the same ethic in turn.

Incentive systems must make the common good and private good converge. Much of corporate social responsibility has come about because this has also been self-serving on the part of the corporations who practice it.

The firm's own good is served as its enhanced image improves its business. Corporate social responsibility must be the norm rather than the exception, such that a firm that does not practice it will find itself being penalized by the market.

Changing hearts

National pride and patriotism have played key roles in some countries in getting people to set aside personal welfare in favor of the common good.

Koreans and Thais gave up

IN SEARCH/ B3

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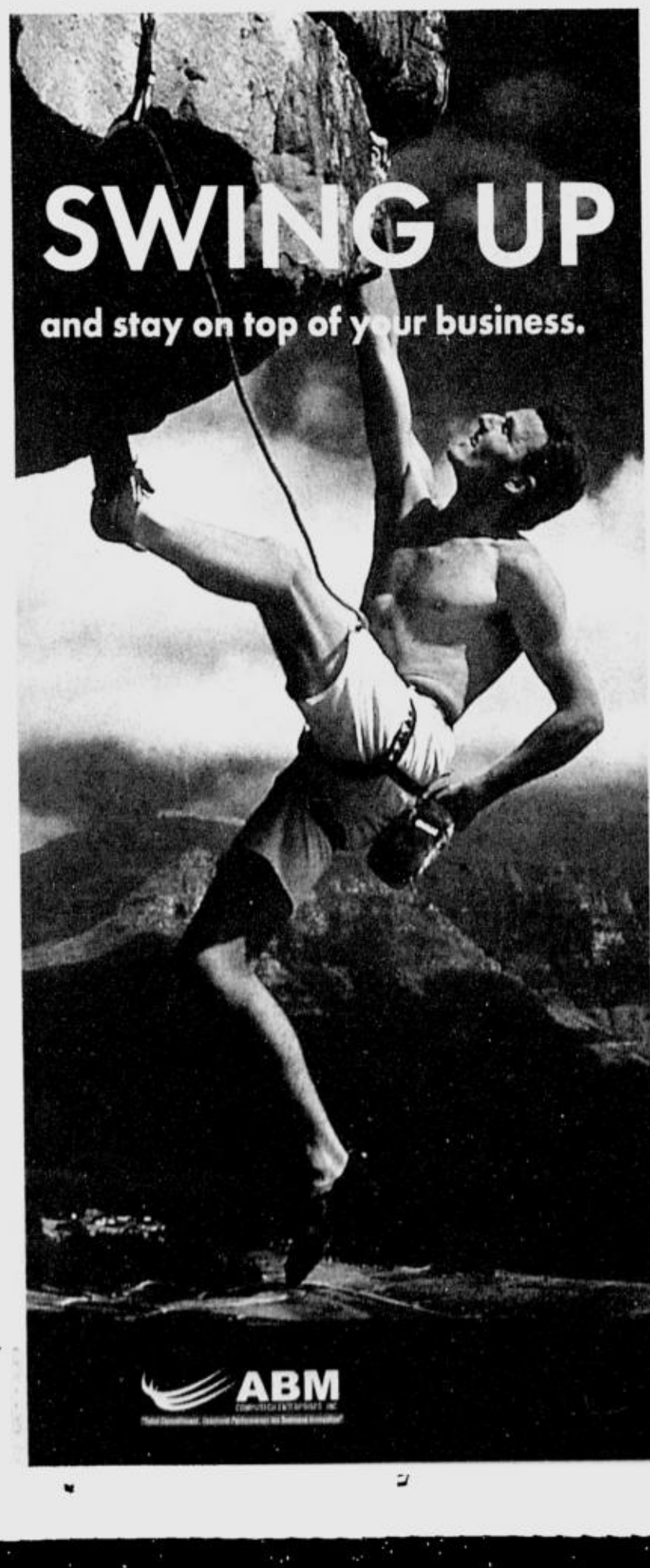

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What Have We Done Right?

360° feedback of semiconductor and electronics companies on the business of their business in the Philippines and Asian region

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0900 WELCOME REMARKS
Mr. Ernie B. Santiago
Executive Director, SEIPI

THE INDUSTRY

0910 AN UPDATE ON THE GLOBAL AND PHILIPPINE SEMICONDUCTOR AND ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY
The semiconductor and electronics industry grew only by less than 1% for the first half of 2005. Can we sustain the growth? What is the forecast for the second half of 2005? What can the industry expect for 2006 and beyond? Know the up-to-date indicators and listen to the latest market information and analysis from a leading figure in the semiconductor and electronics industry.
Mr. Arthur J. Young, Jr.
President, SEIPI
Chairman & CEO, PSi Technologies, Inc.

THE PHILIPPINES

0930 THE PHILIPPINE POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION
Current headlines about the Philippines involves issues on e-VAT, rising oil prices, cost of power, charter change, impeachment, amongst others. Spin-up to the latest political, social and economic events or issues of the country by knowing the real score from a respected political figure in the country.
Senator MAR Roxas
Philippine Senate

THE BUSINESS OF BUSINESS

THE SUCCESS AND FAILURE OF ELECTRONICS BUSINESS IN THE ASIAN REGION
Learn from industry experts about the experiences of companies operating in the Philippines and Asia. Know the background of these companies, actions they have taken, strategic imperatives that pushed them to take such action, and the results of their decision. Listen also as they share key learnings from their experiences and provide words of wisdom to fellow businessmen.

1030 *CASE 1*
COMPANIES COMING IN, GOING OUT AND COMING BACK: THE PEZA EXPERIENCE
Ms. Lilia de Lima
Director General, Philippine Economic Zone Authority

CASE 2
A COMPANY WHO TRANSFERRED THEIR LAPTOP OPERATIONS TO CHINA BUT HAVE DECIDED TO EXPAND DISK DRIVES OPERATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES
Mr. Hiroyuki Kuno
President, Toshiba Information Equipment

CASE 3
A COMPANY WHO SAYS GROWTH CAN HAPPEN WITH GOVERNMENT'S PARTNERSHIP
Mr. Tymen DeJong
President, Intel

1200 Lunch

1300 *CASE 4*
A COMPANY WITH LARGE HDD MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS BOTH IN THE PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND
Mr. Kazuya Takeda
President, Hitachi Global Storage Technologies

CASE 5
FACTORS BEING CONSIDERED BY A MULTINATIONAL COMPANY WHEN INVESTING OR EXPANDING IN A LOCATION SITE
Mr. Richard Cohen
President & General Manager, ON Semiconductor (formerly Motorola)

CASE 6
A FILIPINO FIRM IN EMS AND DESIGN BUSINESS
Mr. Arthur Tan
President & CEO, Integrated Microelectronics,

THE DISCUSSION

1500 CEO PANEL DISCUSSION
Listen to the assessment by the members of the government, academe and industry on the case studies presented. What are the lessons learned so we can move the Philippine semiconductor and electronics industry forward?

A VIEW FROM THE TOP: AN ASSESSMENT
Government:
DTI Secretary Peter B. Favila
Academe:
Mr. Bernie Villegas, PhD., Senior VP, UA&P
Industry: Former SEIPI Presidents
Mr. Francis Ferrer-Former President, IMI
Mr. Jake Peña-Former GM, Intel
Mr. Tony Ng-Former President, Amkor Anam
Mr. Bong Belen-Chairman & Former CEO, Fastech
Mr. Bing Viera, President, TI Philippines
Mr. Arthur Young, Jr., Chairman & CEO, PSi Technologies (incumbent)

THE HIGHLIGHTS

1700 CLOSING MESSAGE
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DISGRUNTLED CATHAY PACIFIC and Qantas have been prevented by the Pasay Regional Trial Court from transferring their warehousing and cargo logistics business away from the controversial Piatco/Pair Cargo owner Jeffrey Cheng.

Despite having already given the required 60-day notice, the Hong Kong airline has been stopped since last year from moving out its business from Cheng, after the latter successfully obtained an injunction from Judge Francisco Mendiola.

The same judge issued a temporary restraining order last week against Qantas after the Australian airline also served notice that it, too, was unhappy with the level of service that the Cheng company was giving it and that Qantas was consequently transferring its business to another local warehouse provider.

According to the grapevine, the home offices of the foreign airlines were "stunned" after being informed that the Philippine judiciary not only can prevent a legitimate foreign business from dropping a service provider it is no longer happy with, but also keep the foreign business a virtual hostage to the local partner.

According to an industry estimate, Cathay Pacific and Qantas bring Pair Cargo about P15 million a year in combined revenues.

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

More NW pricing promo

FINANCIALLY troubled Northwest Airlines has pulled another pricing gimmick up its sleeve to boost capacity in its profitable trans-Pacific sector.

For $615, about the price of three roundtrip tickets to Hong Kong, Northwest is offering economy class-passage to the US West Coast good for departure from Manila throughout the Yuletide rush until Dec. 31.

Valid for six months, the "V" class ticket may be bought only through the NW website, thus cutting out the middlemen travel agents.

The promo ticket also allows free stopover in Japan during the return portion.

Money-go-round

• A VICE president of Clark Development Corp., Romeo Dyoco, who had been retired and given separation pay after the board chose not to reappoint him, is being resurrected at Clark International Airport Corp., after spending only six months at Clark Polytechnic post-CDC, with the same rank, pay and privileges.

• Ambassador to Washington Albert del Rosario has received Malacañang approval to retire from his coveted diplomatic assignment by year end.

Heard through the grapevine

HE may have voted to impeach Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, but that has not prevented Makati Rep. Teodoro Locsin Jr. from sending word to Malacañang to please retain his job-hopping brother, Enrique "Henry" Locsin, as a Malacañang nominee to the cash-rich Philcomsat Group.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)

No Free Lunch

From page B2

their gold possessions to their national reserves at the height of the Asian financial crisis. Unfortunately, such national pride and patriotism continue to elude us Filipinos.

Spiritual and moral renewal—that is, transforming people's values and ethics—is an important means to change people's hearts toward putting the common good above personal welfare. Change in attitude precedes change in one's actions.

Finally, providing wide participation in policy-making mechanisms raises the likelihood that the common good will be served by government policies. The trend towards more devolution and civil society participation in governance are thus important positive steps.

The Philippines has been a forerunner in the region in this regard, thanks to the political will demonstrated by past leaders who welcomed and provided stronger and meaningful participation by civil society and business in the nation's governance. Our continuing challenge lies in making such participation an effective counterforce to the self-serving motivations of the ultimate decision-makers in government. *(Comments are welcome at chabito@ateneo.edu.)*

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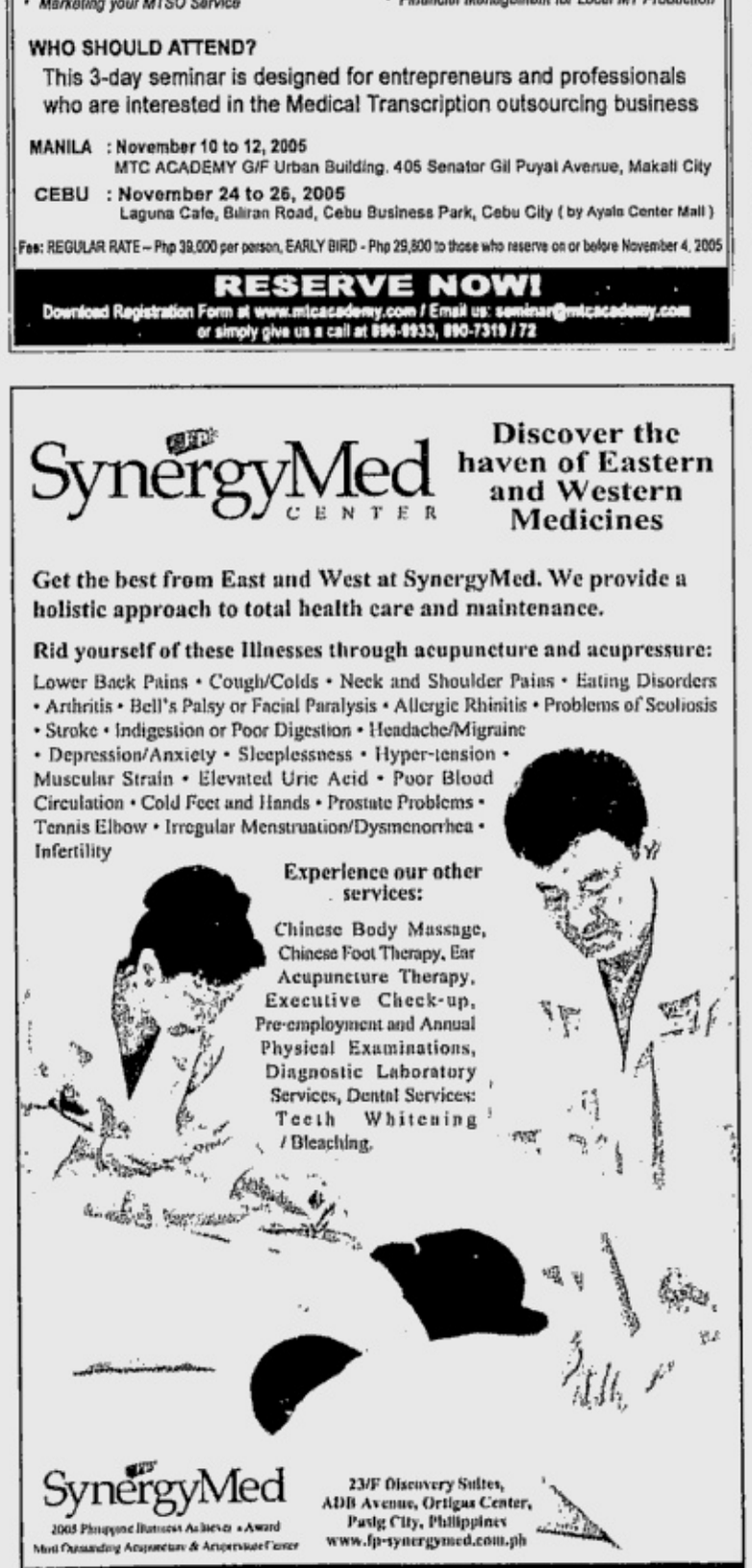
Lower Back Pains • Cough/Colds • Neck and Shoulder Pains • Eating Disorders • Arthritis • Bell's Palsy or Facial Paralysis • Allergic Rhinitis • Problems of Scoliosis • Stroke • Indigestion or Poor Digestion • Headache/Migraine • Depression/Anxiety • Sleeplessness • Hyper-tension • Muscular Strain • Elevated Uric Acid • Poor Blood Circulation • Cold Feet and Hands • Prostate Problems • Tennis Elbow • Irregular Menstruation/Dysmenorrhea • Infertility



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Firm joins booming call center industry

WINSOURCE SOLUTIONS Inc., a subsidiary of Windsors Holdings Philippines Inc., is joining the burgeoning information technology outsourcing call center business.

WinSource Solutions will house its offshore business process outsourcing (BPO) operations at its newly completed executive and servicing offices at the Robinson Cybergate Tower I in Mandaluyong City. The company said it would start with 270 production stations even as it works on a 1,000 seats program over the next five years.

WinSource Solutions deputy chair Citas Lomotan said the business development targets for the new enterprise have been met since its establishment and registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

She said WinSource Solutions would service its customers through digital and electronic software applications and other services and facilities to complete commercial transactions.

Lomotan said WinSource Solutions would serve as a consolidating contact center for customers around the world but initially start with customers from the United States as training of agents versed in other foreign languages go on. She said WinSource Solutions has embraced advanced technologies and the Internet to deliver its products and services.

She said the company was scheduled to receive its first call on Oct. 21, but its formal inauguration is on Oct. 24.

Lomotan noted that during the past two years, the Philippines has emerged as the destination of choice for US-based call centers because of its location, the capability of Filipinos and its cultural identity.

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of October 14, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	30.5	31	30.5	31	230,400
Bank of the Phil. Islands	51.5	52	51.5	51.5	1,808,000
Citystate Savings Bank	17	17	17	17	100
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.53	0.54	0.53	0.53	1,570,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	48	48	47	47	255,200
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	27	27	26.5	26.5	330,700
Philippine National Bank	30.5	30.5	30	30	62,500
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	14.5	14.5	14.25	14.25	3,300
Security Bank Corp.	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5	54,800
Union Bank of the Phil.	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5	1,700
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1	1	1	1	290,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	2015	2020	2015	2020	720
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.91	0.91	0.9	0.9	2,580,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	730	735	730	735	16,500
Ipeople Inc.	2.65	2.65	2.6	2.65	30,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.046	0.046	0.045	0.045	1,200,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.68	1.68	34,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	2.9	2.95	2.9	2.95	1,690,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1695	1695	1680	1680	202,540
Ivantage Corp.	0.55	0.56	0.55	0.56	700,000
Philweb Corp.	0.016	0.016	0.015	0.016	26,100,000
POWER, ENERGY & OTHER UTILITIES					
Manila Electric Co. A	13.5	13.75	13.5	13.75	6,100
Manila Electric Co. B	21	21.5	21	21.5	194,800
Manila Water Co. Inc.	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	2,419,000
Petron Corp.	3.25	3.25	3.2	3.2	4,894,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	100,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	9.6	9.8	9.6	9.7	2,538,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	270,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.53	0.55	0.53	0.55	1,500,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	3.1	3.1	3.05	3.1	1,474,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	28	28	28	28	26,700
Jollibee Foods Corp.	35	35	34	34	775,200
Pancake House Inc.	1.8	2.2	1.8	2.2	337,000
RFM Corp.	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	40,000
San Miguel Corp. A	65	65	64.5	65	66,000
San Miguel Corp. B	91	91.5	91	91.5	525,800
Universal Robina Corp.	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	9,500
Vitarich Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	180,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	282.5	292.5	282.5	292.5	120,340
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	4.9	4.95	4.9	4.95	17,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	10	10	10	10	6,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.023	0.023	0.022	0.022	2,600,000
A. Soriano Corp.	2.14	2.24	2.14	2.2	2,502,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	2,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	550,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	9.9	10	9.9	9.9	16,189,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.08	0.125	0.08	0.125	600,000
Bengres Holdings Corp.	0.99	1.02	0.99	1.02	4,620,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.185	0.19	0.185	0.19	460,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.25	2,330,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	464,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	100,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.12	1.12	1.1	1.1	750,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	5	5	5	5	5,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	42	44.5	41.5	44	2,473,000
Ionics Inc.	1.12	1.12	1.1	1.1	165,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.9	3.9	3.85	3.85	292,000
Jollivilte Holdings Corp.	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	1,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	100,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.36	1.36	1.34	1.36	3,989,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	960,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	90,000
Prime Media Holdings Inc.	1.2	1.28	1.2	1.26	156,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	40,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	700,000
SM Investments Corp.	216	218	214	216	205,900
Uniwide Holdings Inc	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	2,500,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	40,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	400,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	620,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.44	1.5	1.44	1.5	514,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	320,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	11	11	11	11	100
PLDT (10% Pref.) SeriES U	10	10	10	10	500
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10	10.5	10	10.5	1,300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,000
PLDT 10% Pref Series AA	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	4,000
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	9	9	9	9	7,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	8.8	9	8.8	8.9	41,230,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.18	0.195	0.18	0.195	16,020,000
Cebu Prop. Vent. A	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	50,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.215	0.215	0.21	0.21	1,280,000
EIB Realty Developers Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	30,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	940,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.28	1.28	1.24	1.24	5,321,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.185	0.19	0.185	0.185	2,070,000
City & Land Developers	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	16,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	40,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	387,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.145	0.145	0.145	0.145	310,000
SM Development Corp.	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.38	43,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.4	6,582,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.92	0.96	0.92	0.95	400,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.96	0.99	0.95	0.95	410,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	20,000,000
Atlas Cons Min & Dev't	5.4	5.7	5.4	5.6	1,030,000
Benguet Corp. A	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	6,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.52	1.52	1.5	1.5	165,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.21	0.215	0.205	0.21	4,930,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.23	0.235	0.23	0.23	11,370,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.016	0.016	0.016	0.016	2,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	5,500,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.93	0.93	0.93	0.93	90,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	1.06	1.08	1.06	1.08	206,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	26	26	25.5	26	2,998,100
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	100,000
OIL					
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	103,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	70,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	40,000
Pacifica	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	1,000,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	10,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	1,300,000

	SHARES	VALUE(P)
Bank & Fin Svc	4,607,420	127,364,650.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	96,802,280	876,850,695.00
PRO	74,319,000	429,481,230.00
Mining	49,205,100	88,531,410.00
OIL	105,420,000	978,400.00
GRAND TOTALS	330,353,800	1,523,206,385.00
AVERAGES		
Bank & Fin Svc	548.09	DOWN 4.87
Comm'l & Ind'l	3,094.21	DOWN 0.59
PRO	74.09	UP 7.27
Mining	2,383.31	UP 28.35
OIL	2.93	DOWN 0.01
SME	100.00	UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	1,184.28	DOWN 0.55
Composite	1,953.14	DOWN 1.87

NO. OF ADVANCES: 35; NO. OF DECLINES: 26; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 51; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 112; NO. OF TRADES: 2,400

GG & A Club Shares

SEC License Broker #007575 * As of October 17, 2005

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,100,000	1,000,000
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	-	1,100,000
Baguio Country Club	550,000	510,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	40,000	-
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	-	50,000
Camp John Hay	170,000	-
Canlubang	550,000	400,000
Canyon Woods	130,000	-
Capitol Hills	80,000	50,000
Cebu Country Club	-	1,300,000
Celebrity Sports Club	120,000	-
Club Filipino	140,000	90,000
Eagleridge "A"/"B"/"C"	Please Call	-
Forest Hills "A"	110,000	90,000
Forest Hills "B"	Please Call	180,000
Forest Hills "C"	200,000	-
Lusita Golf "A"	350,000	-
Makati Sports Club "A"	220,000	180,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	250,000	-
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	11,300,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	-	11,000,000
Manila Polo	2,175,000	2,100,000
Manila Southwoods "A"	360,000	300,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	720,000	600,000
Manila Yacht Club	300,000	-
Metroclub "A"	120,000	90,000
Mimosa (Corporate)	500,000	430,000
Mt. Malarayat Gold "A"	250,000	180,000
Mt. Malarayat Gold "C"	350,000	-
Orchard Golf Club "A"	170,000	-
Orchard Golf Club "B"	-	250,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	430,000	-
Quezon City Sports Club	160,000	130,000
Rockwell	Please Call	-
Spa & Lodge	580,000	500,000
Sta. Elena "A"	1,300,000	1,100,000
Sta. Elena "B"	-	1,600,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	170,000	-
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	100,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	360,000	300,000
Tagaytay Highlands	700,000	650,000
Tagaytay Midlands	650,000	600,000
The Palms Country Club	Please Call	-
Valle Verde (Individual)	120,000	-
Valle Verde (Corporate)	200,000	-
Valley Golf	200,000	180,000
Wack-Wack Golf Club	6,500,000	6,000,000

*PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE

ANVAYA BEACH AND COVE NATURE CLUB	Cash 30 as of Aug 23, 2005
Class B (Ind / Corp) [Local & Foreign]	460,000
Class C (Corp)	728,000

For more information, please call:
Tel no 840-1781 • Fax 894-3021 • Mobile 0917-8043072
Penthouse, Pacific Star Bldg Sen Gil Puyat cor Makati Ave., Makati City
or e-mail at ggashare@mozcom.com

G&W clubshares

SEC License Broker No.: A-1/587

RIGHTS AVAILABLE — As of October 17, 2005

CLUB	SHARES AVAILABLE SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club A/B*	1,100,000/1,250,000*	1,000,000
Alta Vista Corp	-	300,000
Baguio Country Club	550,000	-
Calatagan Golf	40,000	-
Camp John Hay	170,000	-
Canlubang Golf	-	450,000
Canyon Woods	130,000	-
Capitol Hills	70,000	-
Cebu Country Club	1,500,000	-
Celebrity Sports	120,000	100,000
City Sports Club Cebu	400,000	-
Club Filipino	Pls. Call	90,000
Eagleridge A/B*/C**	180,000/Pls. Call**	150,000/250,000*
Eastridge A/B*	Pls. Call	-
Evercrest	65,000	-
Forest Hills A/B*/C**	110,000/290,000*	-
Lusita Golf	350,000	-
Manila Golf Corporate	Pls. Call	11,300,000
Manila Golf Individual	Pls. Call	-
Manila Polo	2,150,000	-
Manila Southwoods A/B*	360,000	650,000*
Makati Sports Club	400,000	180,000
Manila Yacht Club Ind	-	-
Metropolitan Club A/B*	120,000/150,000*	-
Mimosa C2/C3*	Pls. Call	Pls. Call
Mt. Malarayat A	190,000	-
Orchard A/B*/C**	170,000/Pls. Call*	150,000/250,000**
Puerto Azul	Pls. Call	-
Punta Fuego	Pls. Call	-
Quezon City Sports Club	160,000	130,000
Riviera Golf A/B*/C**	90,000/180,000/250,000*	-
Rockwell Leisure Club	Pls. Call	-
Royale Tagaytay CC	80,000	-
Sherwood A/C*	70,000/150,000**	-
Spa & Lodge	550,000	-
Sta. Elena Golf A/B*	Pls. Call	1,100,000/1,600,000*
Subic Golf	Pls. Call	-
Subic Yacht Club	Pls. Call	-
The Palms Country Club	Pls. Call	-
Tagaytay Country Club	Pls. Call	-
Tagaytay Highlands	700,000	650,000
Tagaytay Midlands	Pls. Call	600,000
The Country Club	2,000,000	-
Tower Club	Pls. Call	-
Valley Golf	200,000	-
Valle Verde Ind.	120,000	-
Wack Wack Golf	6,400,000	-

Tel #: 7723246 / 4978504 / 8151752
(0917) 3287789 Email: info@gwclubshares.com website: www.gwclubshares.com

UCPB PROPERTY MARKET

OCTOBEST AUCTION
OCT. 26, 2005 (WEDNESDAY) 3:00 P.M., UCPB BLDG., MAKATI AVE., MAKATI CITY

10% DOWNPAYMENT
FIXED 11% INTEREST
10 YEARS TO PAY

WHY RENT A CONDO UNIT WHEN YOU CAN OWN!

PALM TOWER
San Antonio Village, Makati City

Minimum Bid Price Starts at: P24,984.15/sqm.
Minimum Bid Price Starts at: P16,007/sqm.

RESIDENTIAL UNIT		COMMERCIAL UNIT	
36.36sqm	P 908,424.00	16.16sqm	P 322,718.40
36.54sqm	P 1,161,111.72	21.00sqm	P 447,488.00
37.38sqm	P 1,085,452.80	22.25sqm	P 569,600.00
57.90sqm	P 1,850,253.24	26.85sqm	P 687,360.00
63.77sqm	P 1,862,084.00	32.56sqm	P 521,216.00
65.00sqm	P 1,988,363.20	49.94sqm	P 843,763.20
67.23sqm	P 1,759,209.60	56.97sqm	P 1,151,308.80
73.61sqm	P 1,854,972.00	58.10sqm	P 1,412,992.00
75.39sqm	P 2,277,840.65		
98.43sqm	P 2,841,452.00		

WHY RENT AN OFFICE SPACE WHEN YOU CAN OWN!
for as low as P30,065 per month

ATLANTA CENTER
Annapolis, Greenhills, San Juan

OFFICE UNITS with Parking

89sqm	P	2,514,600.00	150.31sqm	P	4,230,900.00
101.67sqm	P	2,726,100.00	181.19sqm	P	5,583,600.00
113.92sqm	P	3,349,800.00	265.95sqm	P	9,183,600.00
124.29sqm	P	3,661,200.00	466.28sqm	P	15,832,800.00

For scheduled unit viewing please call LIZ 0917-545-7357

WHY WAIT TO LIVE BESIDE YOUR GOLF COURSE WHEN OURS IS READY!

MT. MALARAYAT
Lipa City, Batangas
MOUNT MALARAYAT RESIDENTIAL ESTATES

Minimum Bid Price Starts at: P2,700/sqm.
Minimum Bid Price Starts at: P3,170/sqm.

NON-FAIRWAY LOTS		FAIRWAY LOTS	
737sqm	P1,989,900.00	1033sqm	P3,274,610.00
758sqm	P2,046,600.00	1180sqm	P3,740,600.00
788sqm	P2,127,600.00	1272sqm	P4,032,240.00
816sqm	P2,203,200.00	1593sqm	P5,049,810.00
870sqm	P2,349,000.00	2258sqm	P7,157,860.00

COOL AND GREEN ANTIPOLO PROPERTIES

COTTONWOODS HEIGHTS
Antipolo, Rizal

Minimum Bid Price Starts at: P3,040/sqm.
COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS

RESIDENTIAL LOTS		
217sqm	P	659,680.00
242sqm	P	735,680.00
243sqm	P	738,720.00
304sqm	P	924,160.00
345sqm	P	1,048,800.00
359sqm	P	1,091,360.00
413sqm	P	1,225,520.00
459sqm	P	1,395,360.00

HILLS OF MAIA ALTA
Antipolo City

Minimum Bid Price Starts at: P2,800/sqm.
Maia Alta ANTIPOLO CITY

RESIDENTIAL LOTS	
173sqm	P 484,400.00
177sqm	P 495,600.00
178sqm	P 498,400.00
195sqm	P 546,000.00
201sqm	P 562,800.00
254sqm	P 711,200.00
260sqm	P 728,000.00
313sqm	P 876,400.00
326sqm	P 912,800.00
357sqm	P 999,600.00

TOWN AND COUNTRY
Dasmariñas, Cavite

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190sqm	P	410,400.00
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200sqm	P	432,000.00
270sqm	P	607,500.00
308sqm	P	693,000.00
338sqm	P	760,500.00
436sqm	P	981,000.00
479sqm	P	1,077,750.00
501sqm	P	1,127,250.00

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Davao City

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405sqm	P	1,032,750.00	689sqm	P	1,756,950.00
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453sqm	P	1,155,150.00	730sqm	P	1,861,500.00

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183sqm	P	263,700.00	334sqm	P	571,500.00
200sqm	P	324,000.00	400sqm	P	612,000.00
245sqm	P	419,400.00	528sqm	P	902,700.00

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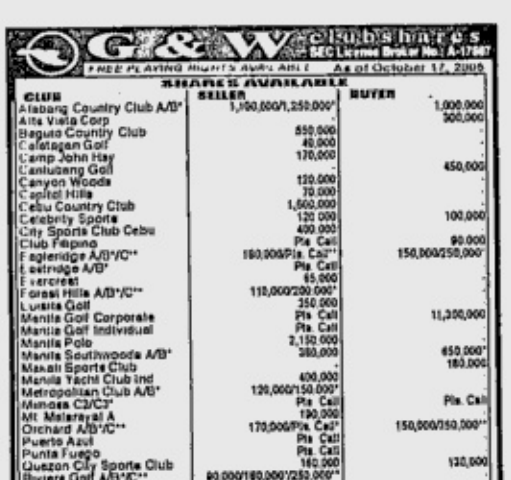

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Thai AirAsia gets permit to mount Clark-Macau-Bangkok flights

By Clarissa S. Batino

THAI AIRASIA, A UNIT OF THE REGION'S most prominent budget carrier AirAsia Berhad of Malaysia, will start its Clark-Macau-Bangkok flights by the end of November after securing a provisional permit from the Civil Aeronautics Board last Friday.

CAB executive director Tomas Mañalac said the board had given Thai AirAsia a 30-day authority to fly the route. The permit is valid up to Nov. 15.

Thai AirAsia plans to sell one-way Clark-Macau tickets for as low as P1,500 and one-way Clark-Macau-Bangkok tickets for as low as P3,700. Cheap fares of budget carriers are very limited and are usually available only to those who would book their flights three months in advance.

Maalac said Tiger Airways Ltd., a low-cost carrier from Singapore, had not been given the go-ahead as there were still outstanding issues on its application for a Clark-Macau-Clark route.

Tiger Airways' application is classified as seventh freedom among aviation rights and is not allowed even under a regular bilateral deal. Thai AirAsia's route falls under the fifth freedom right, which is permitted in some bilateral deals.

Philippine Airlines, Cebu Air Pacific and Air Philippines Corp. have opposed the excessive aviation rights that the two low-cost carriers were seeking.

Thai AirAsia legal counsel Anna Paner said the low-cost carrier was originally scheduled to launch its flight to Clark last Oct. 15. But the maiden flight had to be moved most likely to the last week of November due to delays in securing the permit.

"We may have to ask for an extension of the provisional authority if we don't get the permanent approval before Nov. 15," Paner said.

CAB hearing officer Fred Villarin said his office would accept objections to the applications of Thai AirAsia and Tiger Airways until today.

PAL, the country's biggest carrier, is worried that the Macau stopover would cannibalize its Manila-Hong Kong route.

PAL president Jaime Bautista pointed out that most of the airlines in Clark were already operating outside of bilateral agreements forged by the Philippines with other governments.

Commercial aviation operations are governed by these bilateral deals, which specify routes, entitlements and frequencies that carriers from both countries could use. "They are already asking for fifth and seventh freedom when in fact, most of them are already flying outside what is allowed by existing bilateral deals," Bautista said in an interview.

He said PAL had already consented "for now" to the government's move last year to open up Clark to carriers even from countries like Singapore that have fully exhausted their air entitlements with the Philippines.

The Arroyo administration had fully deregulated cargo air rights in Clark since December 2003 and a year later, opened up the former military air base to passenger carriers to boost local tourism.

"Air agreements must be based on reciprocity. For now, PAL does not object to granting third and fourth freedom rights to carriers outside of bilateral deals. But fifth and seventh freedom is too much," Bautista said.

Flights of Thai AirAsia and the expansion of Tiger Airways are being counted on to almost double passenger traffic in Clark to 40,000 a month starting October from 22,000 a month.

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398 SQM	P 1,800,000

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55 SQM	P 96,250
65 SQM	P 105,000
80.5 SQM	P 141,680

GOLDLAND ROYALE HOMES SUBD. SAN PASCUAL BATANGAS (VACANT LOTS)

L.A.	MIN. BID PRICE:
30 SQM	P 60,000
81 SQM	P 162,000
120 SQM	P 240,000
153 SQM	P 306,000
182 SQM	P 364,000
225 SQM	P 450,000
239 SQM	P 478,000

VILLA ADELINA III, BGY. BULILAN SUR, PILA, LAGUNA (VACANT LOTS)

L.A.	MIN. BID PRICE:
100 SQM.	P 120,000
120 SQM.	P 108,000
189 SQM.	P 212,625
273 SQM.	P 328,000
675.99 SQM.	P 540,792

ATLA RESIDENCIA DE BACOOR SUBD. BACOOR, CAVITE (VACANT RSDL LOTS)

L.A.	MIN. BID PRICE:
238 SQM.	P 1,000,000
296 SQM.	P 1,400,000
306 SQM.	P 1,400,000
338 SQM.	P 1,500,000

MANILA SOUTHWOODS CARMONA, CAVITE (VACANT LOTS)

L.A.	MIN. BID PRICE:
456 SQM.	P 2,502,000
503 SQM.	P 2,263,500
1,000 SQM.	P 4,500,000

CAPITOL HILLS EXEC. SUBD. TRECE MARTIRES, CAVITE (VACANT LOTS)

L.A.	MIN. BID PRICE:
39 SQM.	P 40,500
53 SQM.	P 55,650
74 SQM.	P 77,700
184 SQM.	P 193,200

BATANGAS

BL-1 – 2 STRY. HOUSE & LOT
LA 294 sqm. FA 202 sqm.
P. Aguila St., HOLY FAMILY SUBD., Cuenca
Min. Bid Price: P 1,060,000

BL-2 – 2 STRY. HOUSE & LOT
LA 235 sqm FA 238 sqm
Brgy. Pallocan, KANLURAN
Min. Bid Price: P 3,240,000

BL-3 – HOUSE & LOT
LA. 1,184 sqm. FA. 182.5 sqm
Brgy. Latag, LIPA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 2,754,160

BL-4 – HOUSE & LOT
LA. 4,000 sqm. FA. 268 sqm.
Brgy. Antipolo del Norte
LIPA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 5,085,200

BL-5 – HOUSE & LOT
LA. 735 sqm. FA. 227 sqm.
Interior Kap, Simeon Luz St.
LIPA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 2,806,809

BL-6 – SCHOOL BLDG.
LA 1,440.00 sqm. FA 872 sqm
MIRACLE HEIGHTS SUBD.
Antipolo del Norte, Lipa City
Min. Bid Price: P 8,900,000

BL-7 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 442.5 FA 246. 5 sqm
SAN SEBASTIAN SUBD.
Lipa City
Min. Bid Price: P 2,100,000

BL-8 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 546 sqm. FA 144 sqm.
Sta. Clara Cor. Therese sts.,
MABINI HOMES
Mataas na Lupa, Lipa City
Min. Bid Price: P 2,100,000

BL-9 – 2 STRY. UNFINISHED TOWNHOUSES
LA 2,070 sqm. (20 units)
Kalipulako Granja, LIPA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 9,800,000

BL-10 – HOUSE & LOT w/COMM'L BLDG.
LA 194.20 sqm. FA 266 sqm
No. 204 P. Torres St.
LIPA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 3,350,000

BL-11 – COMM'L BLDG. W/ SHOWROOM
LA 725 sqm FA 210 sqm
National Road., Maraduy
LIPA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 5,400,000

BL-12 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 291 sqm FA 218
Magnolia cor. Jasmin Sts.
DIZON VILL., Tambo, Lipa City
Min. Bid Price: P 2,070,000

BL-13 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 2,343 sqm (total)
Dona Aurora / Adelfa Sts.
CITY PARK SUBD., LIPA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 7,750,000

BL-14 – 2 STRY. HOUSE & LOT
LA. 240 sqm. FA. 134 sqm.
CAEDO SUBD.
Kumintang (Sambat), Ibaba
Min. Bid Price: P 570,000

BL-15 – FACTORY BLDG.
LA 324 sqm. FA 306 sqm
GLORIA CMPD. SUBD.
Tanauan
Min. Bid Price: P 1,485,000

BL-16 – 2 STRY. HOUSE & LOT
LA 455 sqm. FA 240.8 sqm
Gladiola St., CITY PARK SUBD., Lipa City
Min. Bid Price: P 1,730,000

BV-1 – CMM'L LOT
LA 6,666 sqm
Brgy. Puting Bato West
CALACA
Min. Bid Price: P 5,400,000

BV-5 – AGRI LAND
LA 40,739 sqm
Bo. Matahong (Butucan)
NASUGBU
Min. Bid Price: P 240,000

BV-6 – AGRI LAND
LA 22,500 sqm
Bo. Dalig (Latag), NASUGBU
Min. Bid Price: P 150,000

BV-7 – AGRI LAND
LA 22,500 sqm
Bo. Balaytigue, NASUGBU
Min. Bid Price: P 1,100,000

BV-8 – AGRI LAND
LA 67,500 sqm
Bo. Kayrilao (Brgy., Latag)
NASUGBU
Min. Bid Price: P 250, 000

BV-9 – CMM'L LOT
LA 452 sqm
GUALBERTO AVE.
Poblacion, Rosario
Min. Bid Price: P 4,900,000

BV-10 – VACANT LOT
LA 2,009 sqm
Provincial Road
Brgy. Namuco ROSARIO
Min. Bid Price: P 2,998,000

BV-11 – VACANT RSD'L LOT
LA 239 sqm
ARTIKA HEIGHTS CMPD.
Brgy. 10, Sabang, Lipa City
Min. Bid Price: P 695,000

CAVITE

CL-1 - HOUSE & LOT
LA 1,526 sqm. FA 92.6 sqm.
Brgy. Cabuco, TRECE MARTIRES CIY
Min. Bid Price: P 2,500,000

CL-2 – RSDL BLDG.
LA 1,812 sqm.
No. 167 Toclong 1, Brgy. Toclong, IMUS
Min. Bid Price: P 4,500,000

CL-3 – 2 STRY. INDSL/RSDL BLDG.
LA 247 sqm. FA 337 sqm.
No. 1 M.L. Quezon St.
ZAPOTE VILL.
Brgy. Aniban, Bacoor
Min. Bid Price: P 1,200,000

CV-1 – VACANT LOT
LA 376 sqm.
EAGLE RIDGE, Gen. Trias
Min. Bid Price: P 1,052,800

CV-2 – VACANT LOT
LA 200 sqm.
TOWN & COUNTRY SUBD.
Dasmariñas
Min. Bid Price: P 500,000

CV-3 – VACANT LOT
LA 230 sqm.
#8 Nevada St., METRO SOUTH SUBD., Gen. Trias
Min. Bid Price: P 550,000

CV-4 – VACANT LOT
LA 276 sqm.
DREAMLAND. SUBD.
Uniwide Coastal City
Bo. Timalan, Naic
Min. Bid Price: P 450,000

CV-8 – VACANT LOT
LA 400 sqm.
Orchard Residential Estates and Golf & Country Club
Dasmariñas
Min. Bid Price: P 1,000,000

CV-9 – WHOLE SUBDIVISION
LA 34,425 sqm. (121 rsdl. lots)
Bo. Cabuco, TRECE MARTIRES CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 11,513,600

CV-10 – VACANT RSD'L LOT
LA 644 sqm.
ZAPOTE VILL.
Brgy. Aniban, Bacoor
Min. Bid Price: P 2,000,000

CV-25 – VACANT LOT
LA 200 sqm . (2 lots available)
RAMOS FARM SUBD.
Brgy. Daang Amaya, Tanza
Min. Bid Price: P 300,000 each

CV-27 – VACANT RESD'L LOT
LA 600/640 sqm.
Bo. San Agustin
TRECE MARTIRES CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 2,000,000

LAGUNA

LL-1 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 257 sqm FA 126.92 sqm
Wild Rice St., BERMUDA SUBD., Banlic, Cabuyao
Min. Bid Price: P 955,836

LL–3 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 360 sqm FA 192 sqm
DOÑA EUSEBIA SUBD.
Del Remedio, San Pablo City
Min. Bid Price: P 1,300,000

LL-4 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 706 sqm FA 327.48 sqm
NEW CITY SUBD., Brgy. San Roque, San Pablo City
Min. Bid Price: P 3,000,000

LL- 5 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 503 sqm FA 126 sqm
NEW CITY SUBD II., Brgy. San Roque, San Pablo City
Min. Bid Price: P 1,257,500

LL-6 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 96.96 sqm. FA 150 sqm
V. Ac-Ac St., PAETE
Min. Bid Price: 345,977

LL-7 – RSD'L LOT
LA 633 sqm. w/ an unfinished bungalow
Anacleta St., CASA REAL, Pakil
Min. Bid Price: 208,000

LL-8 – VACANT LOT
LA 1,311 sqm
ESTIVA CMPD. A. Mabini Extn.
San Pablo City
Min. Bid Price: P 3,500,000

LL-9 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 2,062 sqm FA 460 sqm
Doña Perfecta & Don Placido Sts.,VESCO SUBD.
San Pablo City
Min. Bid Price: P 4,720,125

LL-10 – AGRILAND w/ POULTRY HOUSES
LA 10,603 sqm
Brgy., Santisimo, Rosario
SAN PABLO CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 2,120,600

LL-11 – AGRILAND w/ POULTRY HOUSES
LA 9,180 sqm.
Brgy., Bautista
SAN PABLO CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 2,100,000

LL-12 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 315 sqm FA 160.15 sqm
IMMACULATE CONCEPCION CMPD., San Pablo City
Min. Bid Price: P 1,800,000

LL-13 – OFFICE WAREHOUSE
LA 10,792 sqm FA 101 sqm.
Brgy., San Jose, STA. CRUZ
Min. Bid Price: P 3,500,000

LL-14 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 181 sqm FA 128.6 sqm
SAN ANTONIO SUBD.
Linga, Pila
Min. Bid Price: P 400,000

LL-15 – VACANT LOT
LA 264 sqm
Park Drive St., MARYMOUNT SUBD., Anos, Los Baños
Min. Bid Price: P 1,404,304

LV-1 – VACANT LOT
LA 431 sqm
Interior P. Guevarra, Poblacion
STA. CRUZ
Min. Bid Price: P 1,000,000

LV-2 – VACANT LOT
LA 428 sqm
Lot 199 G Interior P. Guevarra St., STA. CRUZ
Min. Bid Price: 1,000,000

LV-3 – VACANT LOT
LA 664 sqm
MARINO SUBD., San Lucas
Min. Bid Price: P 1,062,400

LV-4 – VACANT LOT
LA 1,311 sqm (3 lots available)
ESTIVA CMPD., A, Mabini Extension, San Pablo City
Min. Bid Price: P 3,000,000 / P 6,000,000

LV-7 – VACANT LOT
LA 173 sqm
LAKECITY SUBD., San Gregorio, San Pablo City
Min. Bid Price: P 350,000

LV-8 – VACANT LOT
LA 3,335 sqm
Brgy. Canlalay, BIÑAN
Min. Bid Price: P 4,800,000

LV-9 – VACANT LOT
LA 480 sqm
SILMER SUBD., Bo. Halang Biñan
Min. Bid Price: P 1,160,000

LV-10 – VACANT LOT
LA 7,551 sqm
Brgy. Dambo, PANGIL
Min. Bid Price: P 906,120

LV –28 – VACANT LOT
LA 180 sqm
JAMAICA HILLS SUBD.
Bambang, Los Baños
Min. Bid Price: P 532,800

LV-29 – VACANT LOT
LA 180 sqm
JAMAICA HILLS SUBD.
Bambang, Los Baños
Min. Bid Price: P 540,000

LV-30 – VACANT LOT
LA 390 sqm
SPRINGDALE SUBD.
Tadlac, Los Baños
Min. Bid Price: P 1,248,000

ORIENTAL MINDORO

OL-1 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 1,346 sqm FA 124 sqm
National Rd., Brgy. Catiningan
SOCORRO
Min. Bid Price: P 693,445

QUEZON

QL-2 – WAREHOUSE / OFFICE BLDG.
LA 39,062 sqm
Brgy. Mayabobo & Masalacot 3, CANDELARIA
Min. Bid Price: P 6,027,225

QL-3 – RESD'L BLDG., & WAREHOUSE
LA 2,000 sqm. FA 276 sqm.
National Road, Brgy.
Malabanban, CANDELARIA
Min. Bid Price: P 5,434,200

QL-5 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 280 sqm FA 210 sqm
Sampaguita St., ZABALLERO SUBD., Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 1,200,000

QL-6 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 331 sqm FA 210 sqm
SAN RAFAEL SUBD.
Dalahican, Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 573,903

QL-7 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 311 sqm FA 185 sqm
Madrid Extn. UNIVERSITY VILL., Ibabang Dupay
Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 1,552,095

QL-8 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 180 sqm FA 154 sqm
Australia St., BETTER LIVING SUBD., Iyam, Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 707,750

QL-9 – 2 STRY. HOUSE & LOT
LA 125 sqm FA 143 sqm
STEPHEN CMPD.
Brgy. Iyam, Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 712, 500

QL-10 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 1,540 sqm FA 70 sqm
Cattleya St., STEPHEN CMPD.
Iyam, Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 3,335,360

QL-11 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 72 sqm FA 72 sqm
Aguilar St., LUCENA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 338,130

QL-12 – HOUSE & LOT
LA 159 sqm FA 127 sqm
LOVELY VILL., Bo. Wakas
Tayabas
Min. Bid Price: P 1,032,000

QV-1 – VACANT LOT
LA 6,485 sqm.
Bgy. Malabanban Norte
CANDELARIA
Min. Bid Price: P 1,459,262

QV-2 – VACANT LOT
LA 27,033 sqm.
Bgy. Mayabobo-Masalukot
CANDELARIA
Min. Bid Price: P 3,817,048

QV-3 – VACANT LOT
LA 20,150 sqm
Brgy. Bulakin, DOLORES
Min. Bid Price: P 3,778,125

QV- 4 – VACANT LOT
LA 7,732 sqm.
Bgy. Domoit, LUCENA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 6,186,240

QV-5 – VACANT LOT
LA 546 sqm.
ST.PETER SUBD., Gulang-Gulang, Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 819,000

QV-6 – VACANT LOT
LA 264 sqm.
RIDGEWOOD SUBD., Gulang-Gulang, Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 752,400

QV-7 – VACANT LOT
LA 1,400sqm
Provincial Road, Gulang-Gulang, LUCENA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 6,720,000

QV-8 – VACANT LOT
LA 237 sqm.
Quezon St., CIUDAD MAHARLIKA, Bgy. Iyam
Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 492,960

QV-9 – VACANT LOT
LA 203 sqm.
Juan Luna St., CIUDAD MAHARLIKA, Bgy. Iyam
Lucena City
Min. Bid Price: P 578,550

QV–10 – VACANT LOT
LA 2,096 sqm.
Bo. Iyam, LUCENA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 1,512,000

QV-11 – VACANT LOT
LA 216 sqm
HL BRIONES SUBD., Bucal Pagbilao
Min. Bid Price: P 100,000

QV-12 – VACANT LOT
LA 3,740 sqm
Brgy., Tumabaga, SARIAYA
Min. Bid Price: P 420,750

QV–13 – VACANT LOT
LA 480 sqm.
Mansayon St., San Francisco District, LUCENA CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 588,00

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PNOC-EDC privatization moved to first quarter of 2006

By Michelle V. Remo

THE GOVERNMENT HAS AGAIN MOVED the sale of Philippine National Oil Co.-Energy Development Corp. (PNOC-EDC) to the first quarter of next year, saying preparations were now being completed for the privatization plan.

Finance Undersecretary Gabriel Singson Jr. said officials handling the government's privatization efforts are set to submit the new blueprint to the Joint Congressional Privatization Commission (JCPC), the congressional body tasked to oversee the privatization of power assets. JCPC's approval is required before the privatization of PNOC-EDC can push through.

PNOC-EDC is the geothermal arm of PNOC. The assets to be sold in the privatization of PNOC-EDC would include the 720-megawatt Tongonan 1-3 plants, the 192-MW Palinpinon plan, and the 108-MW Mt. Apo geothermal complexes.

The government was supposed to privatize PNOC-EDC as early as 1997 but decided to defer it following the financial crisis that hit Asian economies during that year. But the government later on decided to put PNOC-EDC in the list of assets to be privatized, previously targeting to sell it this year.

Singson, who handles the government's privatization efforts, said PNOC-EDC was one of the state assets lined up for privatization for 2006.

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For P1,500,000 loan amount pay as low as P22,163* for 10 yrs.

MAIA ALTA Antipolo — HOUSE & LOT

L.A.	F.A.	Min. Bid Price
88	97	P1,100,000
109	60	P 890,000
120	80	P 950,000
173	79	P1,155,000
194	80	P1,600,000

BENTLEY PARK SUBD. Antipolo — VACANT LOT

L.A.	Min. Bid Price
180	P 485,000
200	P 550,000
276	P 750,000
281	P 950,000

GOLDPATH Las Piñas — VACANT LOT

L.A.	Min. Bid Price
1,755.96	P 5,619,000
1,765.20	P 6,323,000
1,572.39	P 5,221,000
2,123	P 7,430,000

BELLE REVE Laguna — VACANT LOT

L.A.	Min. Bid Price
546	P 3,150,000
615	P 3,400,000
711	P 3,870,000
735	P 3,960,000

LA RESIDENCIA Laguna — VACANT LOT

L.A.	Min. Bid Price
150	P 800,000
174	P 1,000,000
300	P 1,550,000
335	P 2,000,000

ROYAL MEADOWS MEXICO Pampanga — HOUSE AND LOT

L.A.	F.A.	Min. Bid Price
110	32	P 310,000
122	31.5	P 350,000
132	31.5	P 450,000
134	32	P 455,000
191	31.5	P 525,000

ANTIPOLO, RIZAL

1RSB-O-AT4 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 312 sqm F.A. 60 sqm.
LOREMAR EXEC. VILL, San Roque
Min. Bid Price: P 3,300,000

1RSB-O-AT9- RSD'L CMPD.
L.A. 1,305 sqm F.A. 744 sqm.
#27 Sunrise cor. 4th Ave.,BEVERLY HILLS SUBD.
Min. Bid Price: P 11,000,000

1RSB-O-AT10 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 2,415 sqm
VICTORIA VALLEY, Mayamot
Min. Bid Price: P 3,500,000

1RSB-O-AT11 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 50 sqm F.A. 30 sqm.
B15 L23 WOODROW HILLS
Min. Bid Price: P 590,000

2RSB-O-AT1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 340 sqm F.A. 147 sqm.
B3 L4 COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS
Min. Bid Price: P 2,341,000

2RSB-O-TY3 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 150 sqm. F.A. 148 sqm.
B4 L13 RODGEMONT EXEC. VILL.
Min. Bid Price : P 1,620,000

2RSB-V-TY4 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 312 sqm. F.A. 378 sqm.
B3 L14&15 GREENLAND EXEC. VILL.
Min. Bid Price : P 3,800,000

2RSB-O-AT5 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 370 sqm. F.A. 117sqm.
B5 L13 COTTONWOODS HGHTS.
Min. Bid Price: P 3,135,000

2RSB- V-AT23 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 130 sqm F.A. 64 sqm.
B2 L11 WOODROW HILLS
Min. Bid Price: P 815,000

2RSB-V-AT4 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 1,030 sqm.
MISSION HILLS
Min. Bid Price : P 3,500,000

2RSB-V-AT12 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
BENTLY PARK SUBD.
Min. Bid Price : P 550,000

CAINTA, TAYTAY, ANGONO, RIZAL

1RSB-O-BN1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 183 sqm. F.A 150 sqm.
M. Oja St., MAHABANG PARANG Binangonan
Min. Bid Price : P 786,000

1RSB-O-BN2 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 200 sqm. F.A 163 sqm.
B3 L15A&B Ringgit St., BANKERS VILL. 5, Binangonan
Min. Bid Price : P 2,026,000

1RSB-O-SM2 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 50 sqm.
B36 L11 Nangka St., TIERRA MONTE, San Mateo
Min. Bid Price : P 250,000

1RSB-O-CN4 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 200 sqm. F.A. 166 sqm.
17 Doylestown St., COUNTRY HOMES, Cainta
Min. Bid Price : P 1,890,000

2RSB-O-CN3 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 136sqm. F.A. 141 sqm.
63 Yakal St., GREENWOODS, Cainta
Min. Bid Price : P 2,700,000

2RSB-V-AG1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 116 sqm. F.A. 202 sqm.
Doña Nieves, Sto. Niño, ANGONO
Min. Bid Price : P 1,550,000

2RSB-O-SM1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 70 sqm. F.A. 32 sqm.
B13 L8 PALMERA HOMES, San Mateo
Min. Bid Price : P 185,000

2RSB-O-SM4 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 240 sqm. F.A. 232 sqm.
L29 B5 MARVI HILLS SUBD., San Mateo
Min. Bid Price : P 1,550,000

CALOOCAN

1RSB-O-CL1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 153 sqm. F.A. 70.18 sqm.
20 Athens VISTA VERDE NORTH
Min. Bid Price : P 1,440,000

1RSB-O-CL2 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 226 sqm. F.A. 200 sqm.
B4 L25 PLEASANT VIEW SUBD.
Bagbaguin
Min. Bid Price : P 2,100,000

1RSB-O-CL4 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 96 sqm. F.A. 67 sqm.
B7 L10 PALMERA SPRING, Bagumbong
Min. Bid Price : P 610,000

1RSB-O-CL5 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 216 sqm. F.A. 175 sqm.
B1 L17 HILLCREST SUBD.
Min. Bid Price : P 2,100,000

1RSB-O-CL6 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 99 sqm. F.A. 100 sqm.
B1 L1 Diamond cor. Garnet St. RESIDENZA, Camarin
Min. Bid Price : P 1,450,000

2RSB-O-CL1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 50 sqm. F.A. 50 sqm.
B13 L4 WHISPERING PALMS
Min. Bid Price : P 615,000

2RSB-O-CL2 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 50 sqm. F.A. 48 sqm.
B22 L21 PALMERA SPRINGS
Min. Bid Price : P 385,000

2RSB-O-CL4 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 102 sqm. F.A. 82 sqm.
B10 L2 WHISPERING PALMS
Min. Bid Price : P 800,000

2RSB-O-CL5 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 872 sqm.
MIRAMONTE HEIGHTS, Camarin
Min. Bid Price : P 635,000

2RSB-V-CL1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 106 sqm. F.A. 40 sqm.
B4 L 1 Madrid St., TIERRA NOVA
Min. Bid Price : P 535,000

2RSB-V-CL2 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 166 sqm.
Copenhagen St, VISTA VERDE NORTH
Min. Bid Price : P 470,000.00

2RSB-V-CL8 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 185 sqm.
B17 L15 PALMERA SPRINGS
Min. Bid Price : P 450,000.00

LAS PINAS

1RSB-O-LP2 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 240 sqm F.A. 395 sqm
B18 L4 BF RESORT VILLAGE
Min. Bid Price : P 5,250,000.00

1RSB-O-LP3 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 120 sqm F.A. 105 sqm
Revelation St.,CAMELLA HOMES
Min. Bid Price : P 1,250,000

1RSB-O-LP4 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 148 sqm F.A. 180 sqm
5-A Minuet St., STA CECILIA VILL.
Min. Bid Price : P 1,650,000

1RSB-O-LP5 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 315 sqm F.A. 194.25 sqm
2 Uranium St., CAMELLA HOMES CLASSIC IV
Min. Bid Price : P 2,100,000

1RSB-O-LP6 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 238 sqm F.A. 112 sqm
51 Dao St., PILAR VILLAGE
Min. Bid Price : P 1,800,000

2RSB-O-LP1- HOUSE & LOT
L.A 592sqm F.A 392sqm
CRM Ave cor CRM Luz. B.F HOMES
Min Bid Price: P 7,800,000

1RSB-V-LP1 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 270 sqm
Jave Murphy St., BF. RESORT VILL
Min. Bid Price : P 2,315,000

1RSB-V-LP2 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 150 sqm F.A. 68 sqm
L30 La Segovia BF. RESORT VILL.
Min. Bid Price : P 1,350,000

1RSB-V-LP9 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 216 sqm F.A. 221 sqm
22 Amethyst St., LAS PIÑAS ROYALE
Min. Bid Price : P 3,100,000

MARIKINA

2RSB-O-MR1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 420 sqm. F.A. 310 sqm.
73 Dama De Noche, TWINVILLE SUBD.
Min. Bid Price : P 2,835,000

MAKATI CITY

1RSB-O-MK1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 273 sqm FA 193 sqm.
PEMBO, Fort Bonifacio
Min. Bid Price : P 2,250,000

MANILA

1RSB-V-ML1 - 2 units CONDOMINIUM
FA 128 sqm.
EMPIRE PLAZA CONDO
Min. Bid Price : P 4,365,000.00

MUNTINLUPA

2RSB-O-MN1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 154 sqm F.A. 135 sqm
LAKESHORE HOMES
Min. Bid Price : P 1,650,000.00

PASIG CITY

1RSB-O-PG1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 65 sqm. F.A. 30 sqm.
Unit L101-A-L101 OMM, SAN MIGUEL AVE.
Min. Bid Price : P 2,250,000

1RSB-V-PG2 - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 73.97 sqm. (2 UNITS)
Unit F-301 / F-302 HAMPTON GARDEN
Min. Bid Price: P 2,250,000 per unit

2RSB-O-PG1 - HOUSE & LOT
F.A. 240 sqm. F.A. 186 sqm.
2 Oakwood St., GREENWOODS
Min. Bid Price: P 2,300,000

PASAY

1RSB-O-PY1 - OFFICE CONDO
F.A. 33.26 sqm.
Unit 1108, 11th Flr. BUENDIA TOWER
Min. Bid Price : P 1,400,000.00

1RSB-O-PY2 -OFFICE CONDO
FA 43.67 sqm.
Rm. 603, 6th Flr. BUENDIA TOWER
Min. Bid Price : P 1,710,000.00

2RSB-O-PY3 -VACANT LOT
L.A. 193 sqm
B17 L6 Topaz St., SAN JOSE
Min. Bid Price : P 1,634,000.00

PARAÑAQUE

1RSB-O-PQ1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 129 sqm F.A. 245 sqm.
15-A Shenandoah St., SHENANDOAH HOMES
Min. Bid Price : P 2,610,000.00

1RSB-O-PQ2 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 90 sqm F.A. 173.75 sqm.
B42 L27 John St., BETTERLIVING SUBD.
Min. Bid Price : P 2,550,000.00

1RSB-V-PQ2 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 351 sqm F.A. 313 sqm
B26 L1 Don Bosco St., BETTERLIVING SUBD.
Min. Bid Price : P 3,800,000.00

2RSB-V-PQ1 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 331 sqm
L3 B10 Everlasting cor., Violet St., MARCELO GREEN VILLAGE
Min. Bid Price : P 1,575,000.00

QUEZON CITY

1RSB-O-QC3 - RSDL LOT
L.A. 73 sqm.
L8-D JEM 3 SUBD., Banlat
Min. Bid Price : P 1,160,000

1RSB-O-QC4- TOWNHOUSE
L.A. 60 sqm. F.A. 100 sqm.
Unit 8 Adella 5 PARK TOWNHOMES
Min. Bid Price : P 1,400,000

1RSB-O-QC5 - TOWNHOUSE
L.A. 37 sqm. F.A. 59 sqm.
Unit 207-G SCOUT CHUATOCO
Min. Bid Price : P 1,850,000

1RSB-O-QC8 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 526 sqm. F.A. 379 sqm.
B11 L30 FAIRVIEW PARK SUBD.
Min. Bid Price : P 6,000,000

1RSB-O-QC9 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 659 sqm. F.A. 274 sqm.
No. 28 Newport St., EAST FAIRVIEW SUBD.
Min. Bid Price : P 4,000,000

1RSB-V-QC1 - RSDL LOT
L.A. 325 sqm.
L14 B26 J Fuentes, NORTH SUSANA EXECUTIVE VILLAGE
Min. Bid Price : P 2,500,000

1RSB-V-QC2 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 56 sqm. F.A. 60 sqm.
CENTURY HOMES Novaliches
Min. Bid Price : P 650,000

1RSB-V-QC3- HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 54sqm. F.A. 66sqm.
B1 L116 GRANWOOD VILLAS
Min. Bid Price : P 1,950,000

2RSB-V-QC1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 378 sqm. F.A. 642 sqm.
23 Pinesville, GREENVIEW EXEC. SUBD.
Min. Bid Price : P 7,500,000

1RSB-V-QC4 - TOWNHOUSE
L.A. 81.8 sqm. F.A. 76 sqm.
Unit 9 APA COMP., TS
Min. Bid Price : P 1,000,000

TAGUIG

1RSB-O-TG1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 1048 sqm F.A. 300 sqm
135 M.L. Quezon, HAGUNOY
Min. Bid Price : P 8,000,000.00

VALENZUELA

1RSB-O-VL4 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 166 sqm. F.A. 298.5 sqm.
#3 LITTLE BAGUIO, Marulas
Min. Bid Price : P 2,300,000

1RSB-O-VL6 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 215.8 sqm. F.A. 258.7 sqm.
Sto. Rosario Modesto St., MAPULANG LUPA
Min. Bid Price : P 2,600,000

1RSB-O-VL12 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 247 sqm.
233 20th St., FORTUNE VILLAGE
Min. Bid Price: P 1,950,000

1RSB-O-VL3 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 244 sqm. F.A. 120 sqm.
167 6th St., FORTUNE VILLAGE
Min. Bid Price : P 1,050,000

BULACAN

1RCBC2-O-BL1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 764 sqm. F.A. 132 sqm.
Lot 678 Agnaya, PLARIDEL
Min. Bid Price: P 2,600,000

1RCBC2-O-BL3 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 45 sqm. F.A. 23 sqm.
569 Parulan, PLARIDEL
Min. Bid Price: P 850,000

1RCBC2-O-BL7 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 2,656 sqm.
Cutcut, PULILAN
Min. Bid Price: P 5,800,000

1RCBC2-O-BL9 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 540 sqm. F.A. 200 sqm.
MARY GRACE SUBD., Plaridel
Min. Bid Price: P 1,850,000

1RSB-O-BL20 - RSDL LOT
L.A.5,497 sqm
Bo. Mabolo, MALOLOS
Min. Bid Price: P 4,455,000

1RSB-O-BL14 - RSDL LOT
L.A. 3,958 sqm.
Lot 3004 C Camangyanan, STA. MARIA
Min. Bid Price: P 1,850,000

2RSB-O-BL2 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 350 sqm. F.A. 120 sqm.
B2 L5 & L7 Violleta Metroville, BOCAUE
Min. Bid Price: P 2,250,000

1RSB-O-BL11 - RSDL LOT
L.A. 1,421 sqm.
Everlasting, CARUSSA HOMES, SJDM
Min. Bid Price: P 1,150,000

1RSB-O-BL16 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 1,528 sqm. F.A. 305 sqm.
229 Manatal, PANDI
Min. Bid Price: P 4,400,000

1RSB-O-BL18 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 207 sqm. F.A. 60 sqm.
89 Sumapang Bata, MALOLOS
Min. Bid Price: P 875,000

1RSB-O-BL21 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 1,708 sqm. F.A. 100 sqm.
218 Diwasan San Vicente, STA. MARIA
Min. Bid Price: P 1,925,000

1RSB-O-BL24 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 259 sqm. F.A. 160 sqm.
BUHANGIN GARDEN VILL., Sta. Maria
Min. Bid Price: P 2,400,000

2RSB-O-BL1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 79 sqm. F.A. 48 sqm.
L1087 BOCAUE
Min. Bid Price: P 900,000

1RSB-V-BL1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 259 sqm F.A 160 sqm.
BUHANGIN GARDEN VILL., Sta. Maria
Min. Bid Price: P 2,700,000

1RSB-V-BL7 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 116 sqm F.A 36 sqm.
B24 L35 PALMERA HOMES, Sto. Cristo
Min. Bid Price: P 325,000

1RSB-V-BL9 - COMM'L LOT
L.A. 2,471 sqm.
Burol 1st, BALAGTAS
Min. Bid Price: P 18,000,000

1RSB-V-BL15 - RSDL LOT
L.A. 480 sqm
Eucalyptus St., GREENPLAINS.,
Min. Bid Price: P 1,170,000

2RSB-V-BL1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 1,402 sqm. F.A. 60 sqm.
Sapang Palay SJDM
Min. Bid Price: P 11,000,000

2RSB-V-BL3 - IND'L WAREHOUSE
L.A. 845 sqm. F.A. 809 sqm.
RIS INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX, Guiguinto
Min. Bid Price: P 4,800,000

CABANATUAN

1RSB-O-CB1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 5,686 sqm. F.A. 1,310 sqm.
Lot 1390 D Saloysoy, CABANATUAN
Min. Bid Price : P 13,000,000

CAVITE

1RSB-V-CV4 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 141 sqm F.A. 70 sqm.
B12 L24 LA MEDITERRANEA SUBD.
Min. Bid Price: P 875,000.00

1RSB-O-CV10 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 72 sqm F.A. 33 sqm.
B1 L85 PHILHOMES VILLE, Toklong
Min. Bid Price: P 250,000.00

1RSB-V-CV11 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 63 sqm F.A. 30 sqm.
B7 L3 PHILHOMES VILLE, Toklong
Min. Bid Price: P 290,000.00

1RSB-V-CV12 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 63 sqm F.A. 38 sqm.
B6 L7 PHILHOMES VILLE, Toklong
Min. Bid Price: P 365,000.00

1RSB-O-CV9 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 53 sqm F.A. 93 sqm.
B5 L45 GEORGEVILLE, Imus
Min. Bid Price: P 720,000.00

2RSB-O-CV1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 231 sqm F.A. 130 sqm.
B4 L23 Poinsettia St., VIA VERDE VILL.
Min. Bid Price: P 1,500,000.00

2RSB-O-CV7 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 70 sqm F.A. 30 sqm.
B47 L10-B GEORGETOWN HEIGHTS II
Min. Bid Price: P 490,000.00

LAGUNA

2RSB-O-LG38 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 252sqm. FA.146 sqm.
B2 L13 Parklane st., LA MAREA SUBD., San Pedro
Min. Bid Price: P2,700,000

1RSB-O-LG28 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 300 sqm. F.A. 110 sqm.
Lot III & F Pacita Ave., PACITA COMPLEX, San Pedro
Min. Bid Price: P 2,000,000.00

1RSB-O-LG29 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 252sqm. F.A. 100sqm
LAKESHORE SUBD., Bay
Min. Bid Price: P 1,350,000.00

1RSB-O-LG32 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 950 sqm. FA 450 sqm
B8 L4,5,6,&7 DON MIGUEL SUBD. Bila
Min. Bid Price: P 5,300,000.00

1RSB-O-LG31 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 190/298 sqm. FA 430sqm
B3 L 31 & 32 JAMAICA HILLS SUBD.
Min. Bid Price: P 5,000,000.00

1RSB-V-LG25 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 150/220/174 sqm
B21 Lots 33,34,35 SAN LORENZO VILL.
Min. Bid Price: P 2,300,000.00

2RSB-O-LG26 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 271 sqm F.A.150 sqm
B15-A Barrio Road Bo. STA. ROSA
Min. Bid Price: P 760,000.00

2RSB-O-LG27 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 573 sqm F.A.82 sqm
L15&16 B4 Chestnut St. LA MAREA
Min. Bid Price: P 3,515,000.00

2RSB-O-LG33 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 90 sqm F.A.36 sqm
L3 B2 PAMELA HOMES, Brgy Cabuo-an
Min. Bid Price: P 130,000.00

2RSB-V-LG21- VACANT LOT
L.A. 276 sqm
L26 B26 Zenon St. LA RESIDENCIA
Min. Bid Price: P 1,350,000.00

PAMPANGA

2RSB-O-PM8- HOUSE & LOT
L.A 120sqm F.A 67sqm
PALMERA HOMES, Sto. Cristo
Min Bid Price: P 320,000.00

2RSB-O-PM12- HOUSE & LOT
L.A 110sqm F.A 32sqm
METROCLARK, Balibago
Min Bid Price: P 460,000.00

QUEZON PROVINCE

2RSB-O-QZ2 - VACANT LOT
L.A 571sqm
127 NATIONAL HI-WAY, Brgy. Isabang
Min Bid Price: P 2,065,000.00

2RSB-O-QZ1 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 200sqm F.A 69sqm
Bo. Capt. PASCUAL TEJADA St.
Min Bid Price: P 540,000.00

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1RSB-V-TG1 - BLDG. & LOT
L.A 613sqm
NATIONAL Rd., Brgy. Kaybagal
Min Bid Price: P 7,415,000.00

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Bangko Sentral sees '05 BOP surplus at $900M

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPinas expects to end the year with a balance of payments surplus of about $900 million despite inevitable dollar outflows due to last-quarter external debt servicing.

The projected end-2005 BOP is lower than the January to September level of $2.73 billion, but higher than the government's target for this year of $853 million. It also represents a turnaround from a deficit of $300 million in 2004.

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. told reporters that for next year, the government was targeting a surplus of at least $900 million.

The BOP build-up this year is being supported by strong dollar inflows from migrant remittances, exports, investments and fresh foreign borrowings of the government.

The BOP measures the foreign exchange transactions between the economy and the rest of the world. Its major components are the current account and the capital and financial account.

The current account records trade in goods and services as well as cash transfers, while capital and financial accounts include foreign investments.

The projected BOP surplus for the year is supported by a continuing surplus in current account, and the turnaround in the capital and financial account, which was in a deficit last year.

As a percentage of GDP, the current account surplus is seen to reach 1.7 percent this year or smaller than the 2.5 percent last year.

The influx of foreign direct and portfolio investments boosted the capital and financial accounts.

The BSP has adopted this year a new BOP accounting methodology whereby the errors and omissions in these accounts, also known as net unclassified items, were dramatically reduced.

Under the new methodology, for instance, a 20 percent raising factor was included in OFW (overseas Filipino workers) accounts to estimate remittances coursed through nonformal channel. Also, OFWs are now classified into residents (income account) and non-residents (current transfers) in accordance with a one-year residency rule recommended in the BOP manual.

SWS survey: Pure hogwash (Part 2)

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

MAHAR MANGAHAS, PRESIDENT OF SOcial Weather Stations, has two comments on my Sept. 26 column. The column analyzed the survey SWS claimed to have conducted from Aug. 26 to Sept. 5 and released on Sept. 10.

The first comment: "His claim that the SWS survey sample sizes are inadequate is based on pure ignorance. I suggest he consult anyone competent in applied market research about it."

Hey, I did not say inadequate. I said minuscule. SWS claimed to have "used face-to-face interviews of 1,200 adults divided into random samples of 300 each in Metro Manila, the balance in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao." I wrote, "Even if we load the dice in favor of SWS, and assume that the adult population accounts for half of the total population, 1,200 adults is minuscule compared to the 42 million adult Filipinos nationwide. This comes down to one interview for every 35,000 adult Filipinos.

I wrote on, "When the interviews are broken down by regions, the results are equally invalid. In Metro Manila, 300 interviews are one in 17,000 Metro Manilans. In the provinces, 900 interviews is roughly one interview for every 41,000 *provincianos*."

I also questioned the nationwide character of the survey because 900 interviews in the provinces do not even come up to one interview in each of the 1,500 municipalities (117 cities not counted).

I plead guilty to pure ignorance of applied market research. If Mangahas can point me to one competent in it, I would like him to reconcile the tenets of applied market research with the simple logic of high school mathematics.

The second comment of Mangahas is, "As to his claim that SWS gave no statistics to back up its statement on the relationship of socioeconomic class to opinion about impeachment and resignation of the President, the pertinent figures are found in Tables 4 and 5 of the report he cites: those pro-impeachment are 82 percent in Class A, B and C, 80 percent in Class D, and 76 percent in Class E; the pro-resignation are 61 percent in Class A, B and C, 63 percent in Class D, and 72 percent in Class E."

These figures are drawn from the survey of 1,200 face-to-face interviews. As I have explained, such a minuscule figure cannot be validly applied nationwide. And when you break up such a limited survey into several layers or sections, the results are even more invalid because the sum of the parts does not always equal the whole.

It has been said that statistics are like a lamppost to a drunk. It is used for support, not illumination.

By the way, the questions asked under Table 4 was: *Kayo po ba ay sang-ayon o hindi sang-ayon na si Pangulong Gloria Macapagal Arroyo ay dapat ma impeach o dumaan sa isang impeachment trial at kung ang hatol sa kanya ay guilty siya ay matatanggal sa puesto?* Under Table 5, the question asked was, *"Kayo po ba ay sang-ayon or hindi sang-ayon na magresign sa lalong madaling panahon si Pangulong Gloria Macapagal Arroyo?*

These questions are biased and rigged to draw a response inimical to the President. Questions should be narrow and focused so that the answers can validly be added. If the questions are complicated as in Table 4 and 5, the answers are apples and oranges and cannot be rightly summed up.

Let me say this again. The survey looks like what we engineers derisively call a table survey, as opposed to a field survey. A field survey is when you dig out your statistics in the heat of the noonday sun. A table survey is when you pull out statistics our of a hat, and shuffle them around on your table in the cool comfort of your air-conditioned office.

Dismissal of tax evasion ...

From page B1

According to Yap, however, it was precisely because he was a high profile Cabinet member that the BIR rushed to judge him guilty and file the charges in a blitz of media publicity.

'Big fish' wanted

In a telephone interview, he said the rush to catch the proverbial "big fish" is also to program's biggest weakness.

"[Suing a Cabinet official] was just too good to pass up," Yap said. "They didn't even stop to consider that this person still had a future [to think of]."

Last week, Yap was backed up thoroughly by state prosecutors who concluded that the BIR failed to present sufficient evidence to merit the filing of a formal tax evasion case against Yap and his father, Domingo.

While the BIR argued that the four deeds of sale executed for the same parcel of land represented an intent to defraud the government of taxes, the Yaps claimed that they were the result of "continuing negotiations on the purchase price of the property"—an argument state prosecutors agree with.

The Yaps also argued that the fourth deed of sale, which valued the property at only P1 million, was executed by their lawyer without their knowledge, and that Arthur Yap's signature was forged.

Curiously, tax authorities refused to have the questioned signature verified by handwriting experts, a situation that led prosecutors to doubt the strength of the BIR's conviction.

"The BIR not only assumed that the respondents had criminal intent in executing the two separate deeds of sale, it also concluded without any concrete evidence, that respondent Arthur Yap actually participated in the execution of the third deed of sale," the DOJ resolution read.

"We cannot readily conclude... that respondents intended to evade the payment or proper taxes on the basis of allegedly suspicious circumstances," said State Prosecutor Sebastian F. Caponong Jr., who was backed by Chief State Prosecutor Jovencito R. Zuño. "Suspicions or speculations cannot substitute for evidence."

Fight's not over

BIR officials believe, however, that prosecutors missed the point entirely.

BIR Deputy Commissioner Kim Henares said tax officials wanted to avoid muddling the issue by questioning the authenticity of the deed of sale.

"If that deed of sale was fake, then they should have paid taxes for the amount that was in the original deed of sale, which they did not," she said.

Henares said she believed the BIR had a solid case and expressed disappointment at the ruling. "The evidence speaks for itself," she added.

The BIR deputy chief—who worked closely with Parayno in the RATE program—said tax authorities were now "strategizing" on their next move following last week's setback.

She said, however, that they would "almost certainly" ask the justice department to reconsider its decision dismissing the charges against Yap.

Yap, for his part, expressed no surprise that tax authorities have not given up the fight.

"I understand the need for revenues," he said in an interview. "I felt how it was to work in an agency with very limited resources, so I never attacked the BIR on the need to collect more taxes."

Yap said he believed, however, that something more insidious was at work in the raps against him, especially since it came only days before the Hyatt 10's resignation snowballed into President Arroyo's greatest political crisis.

"There was an attempt to curtail President Arroyo's powers by undermining her power base," he said. Being one of Ms Arroyo's "bright boy" appointees, Yap felt he was a natural target.

Despite this, Yap conceded that he did offer to settle the case amicably with the BIR. "I offered *na pag-usapan na lang ng mabuti*," he said.

While such an offer did raise eyebrows in the BIR, the legal tenets state that an offer to settle is not to be taken as an indication of guilt, according to tax authorities.

With the dismissal of the charges against him, Yap expressed hopes that his life could return to normal. "We're a low profile family," he said. "We're very private and low key."

But tax authorities are confident the case against Yap can be revived.

"We're not done yet," Bonoan said.

If the anti-tax evasion program is to progress, however, and if the justice department's findings about the weakness of the tax cases are correct, the BIR will have to work harder to put suspected tax evaders behind bars.

Investors await profit reports

From page B1

strength against the yen in the first nine months of the year has boosted Piltel's profit by more than P600 million. There were also reports that PLDT expects third-quarter earnings to match the second quarter's performance," BPI Trade said.

Investors are also tracking when the Macapagal-Arroyo administration will finally implement the expanded value-added tax law, a key reform that aims to boost government revenue.

The temporary restraining order enforced by the Supreme Court on the VAT law is expected to be lifted by this week.

"But investors' outlook remain cautious due to continuing political concerns and the volatility of oil prices. The political foes of President Arroyo have raised concerns that she might declare martial law," BPI Trade noted.

Analysts at AB Capital Securities said that this early, strong fourth-quarter profit forecasts could also ease fears of a decline in consumer spending heading into the holiday shopping season.

"In the midst of political and economic uncertainties, we continue to advice investors to accumulate selectively. We have the kind of market now where investors should be in the right stocks and lighten up on others. We are recommending International Container Terminal Services Inc., First Philippine Holdings, Megaworld and Petron," Jovis Vistan and Erwin Balita wrote in a weekly report.

Elizabeth L. Sanchez

Canadian mine firm bullish on Batangas

By Christine A. Gaylican

CANADIAN MINING FIRM MRL GOLD Philippines Inc. is bullish on the prospects of its 19 copper and gold mine sites in Batangas and Surigao.

According to MRL Gold president James Anthony P. Climie, the company's mining concessions could yield at least 500,000 ounces of gold and 25,000 metric tons of copper.

Climie said the company was now into major exploration work in these areas and the company had already poured in about $6 million.

"We have programmed an additional $2.5 million next year for our exploration works," he said.

In Surigao del Norte, MRL Gold has a Philippine partner, Minimax Mineral Exploration Corp. and a Canadian partner, Panoro Minerals Ltd.

In Batangas, its partner is Filipino firm Egerton Gold Phils. Inc.

"We have been approached by quite a number of international companies. We're considering it," he said.

"We think the target is so good, the potential is high. We would have been delighted to have a partner two to three years ago when it' was so hard to get one. Now it's so easy to get a partner," he added.

MRL Gold began exploration work in Surigao in 1997. In Surigao, it has eight copper-gold mines at the drilling stage.

The company is listed in the Frankfurt and Toronto Stock Exchanges.

It has major land holdings in a 25,000-hectare area in Surigao and another 25,000-hectare area in the South Luzon gold belt in Batangas.

Another site is a 2,000-hectare project in Pande Azucar in Panay.

Chemrez eyes export market

By Abigail L. Ho

BIO-DIESEL PRODUCER CHEMREZ INC. may just export its products to Japan, Korea and Taiwan if the local market does not grow.

Chemrez is currently expanding its production to 60 million liters a year, four times its current capacity of 15 million liters a year. The P650-million expansion project is expected to be completed by the first quarter of next year.

Dean Lao Jr., Chemrez operations manager, said the company wanted to prioritize the domestic market.

"But if the Philippines is slow in implementing its bio-fuel law, all the [production] could be exported," he said.

"If we remain slow in adopting [the law], when the plant is up and we have to keep it running, we will have to export first," he added.

Exporting all of its production will yield as much as P4.5 billion in sales based on the export price of P60 a liter.

Japan, for example, would start implementing its bio-diesel law by September next year, which would mandate the use of a 5-percent coco methyl ester (CME) blend for the country's diesel requirements, Lao related.

Consuming thrice as much diesel as the Philippines at 40 billion liters a year for land transport alone, he said the country's entire coco bio-diesel production of close to 120 million liters would not even be enough to supply the Japanese market.

He did admit, however, that Philippine producers such as Chemrez would have to compete against countries such as Malaysia, which produce lower-cost palm oil-based biofuel.

Mirant plant ISO certified

PAGBILAO, QUEZON—MIRANT PAGBILAO Corporation has retained its ISO 14001 certification for environmental compliance from the Geneva-based Societe Generale de Surveillance Group.

The re-certification from SGS came after a three-day environmental audie held last Oct. 4-6.

The ISO 14001 Certification, given every three years, is an environmental management system (EMS) audit that encourages organizations to continue improving environmental management.

Mirant Pagbilao Corporation first received the certification on September 27, 2002.

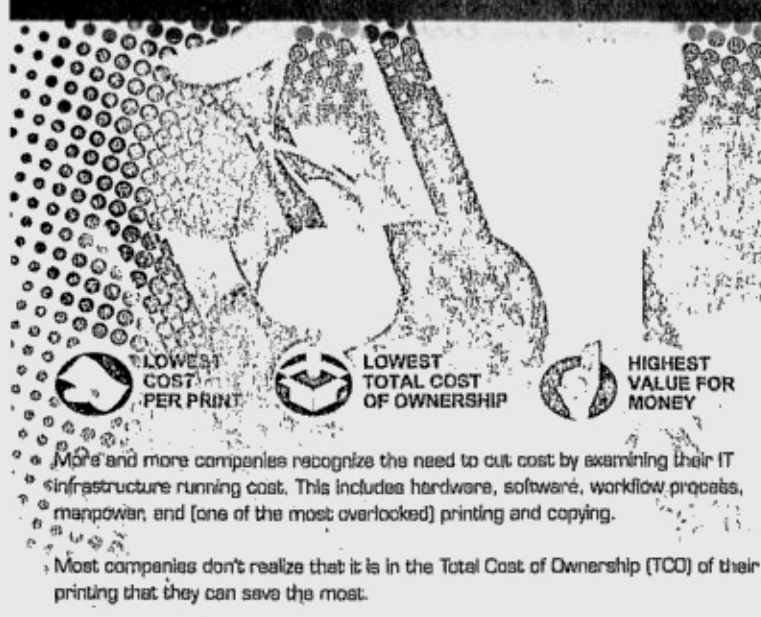
It had to pass annual SGS audits before it was certified again three years after.

The first ISO Certification expires this month.

"This confirms our commitment for continual improvement of our performances in protecting the environment as part of our day to day operations," said Mirant Pagbilao Station Manager Rollie Baris. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

KYOCERA

Time to Switch



More and more companies recognize the need to cut cost by examining their IT infrastructure running cost. This includes hardware, software, workflow process, manpower, and (one of the most overlooked) printing and copying.

Most companies don't realize that it is in the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) of their printing that they can save the most.

TCO analysis has been proven over the years to be the best way to determine cost efficiency from equipment especially those with consumables.

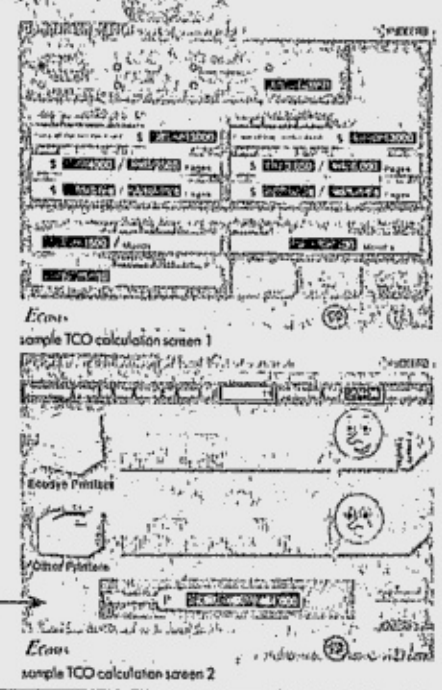
Here is a sample TCO comparison between Kyocera and another brand.

The computations show the amount which can be saved by using Kyocera for just ten printers. Imagine if your company used more printers or printed more!

To put it simply, if your company needs to save, then it's Time to Switch to Kyocera.

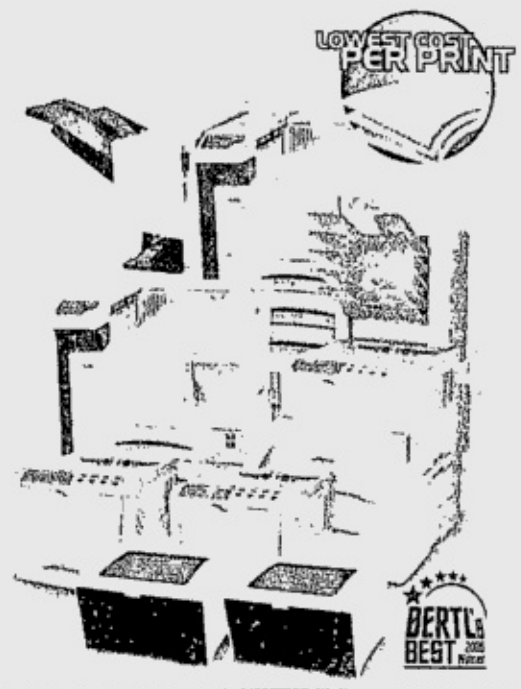
Savings with Kyocera

To download a free copy of the TCO calculator Please visit www.kyoceramita.com.ph



sample TCO calculation screen 1

sample TCO calculation screen 2



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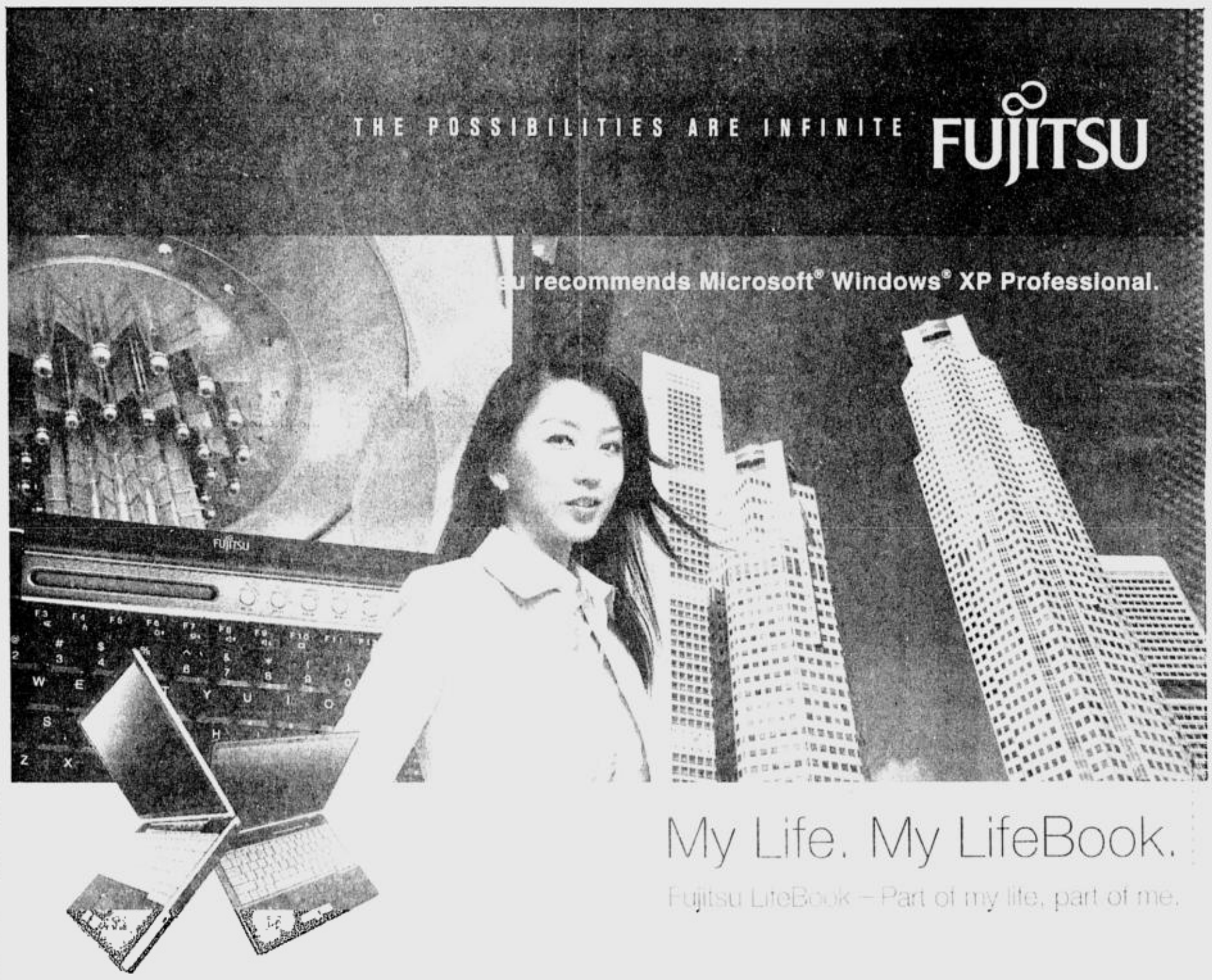

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CalPERS to start review of RP business climate

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez and Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINES IS SEEN WALKING ON A tightrope when America's biggest pension fund, the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), starts its review of the country's investment climate in November.

CalPERS has $172 billion in assets , of which an estimated $85 million is invested in Philippine companies, such as blue chips San Miguel Corp. and Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co.

PSE president Francis Lim said in a recent interview that Oxford Analytica, one of the subcontractors of CalPERS' main consultant Wilshire Associates, will visit the Philippines next month as part of CalPERS' review for the year 2006.

Oxford has requested a meeting with the PSE for an update on the status of creditor and shareholder rights in the country.

The review by Wilshire consultants usually starts in September and ends in March, Lim said.

Wilshire makes its final recommendation to CalPERS in April after completing the rating of 27 countries based on their political stability, legal system, market regulations, labor practices, investor protection structures and stock trading costs.

CalPERS handles the retirement and health benefits of 1.4 million California public employees and 2,500 employers.

For 2006, Lim said the investment climate seemed mixed.

He said he expected this year's positive rating to stay on creditor's and shareholder's rights.

He however expressed concern over how Wilshire would view the country's P80.8 billion budget deficit in August and the integrity of investment contracts in the Philippines.

For one, lawyers and urban poor leaders asked the Supreme Court recently to nullify the multimillion-dollar North Luzon Railways Corp. (Northrail) contract awarded to China National Machinery and Equipment Corp. The government committed to shouldering $100 million of the $503 million cost of the project.

Lim said, however, these concerns could be offset by a recent Supreme Court decision that opened up the mining sector to foreign investors. The recent High Court ruling sparked interest in dormant mining ventures and triggered a rally in mining stocks.

Renato Pizarro, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas executive director for investor relations, said investors and credit rating agencies indicated during recent offshore meetings with the government's economic team that their most serious concern was the prospect of the full implementation of the expanded value added tax law and its contribution to achieving fiscal targets in 2006 and beyond.

"While the Supreme Court decision was viewed positively, recent moves in Congress to defer a provision in the VAT law on the elimination of VAT exemptions of the power and fuel sectors clouds market sentiment," Pizarro said.

If such moves were pursued, Pizarro said these would lead to the "compression of investor confidence which may result in retrenchment of capital flows and heightened financial volatility." He said another consequence would be unfavorable credit rating actions that could raise the government's borrowing costs and derail fiscal consolidation efforts. Hopefully, he said, the Supreme Court would likely lift the temporary restraint order on the VAT law by on Oct. 18.

The government's economic team led by Finance Secretary Margarito Teves, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Amando Tetangco Jr., Trade Secretary Peter Favila and Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Augusto Santos recently conducted meetings with foreign investors in New York and Washington.

The investors present during

CALPERS/ B11 LIM

BOI OKs ₱130-M logistics project

THE BOARD OF INvestments approved the granting of tax perks for a local firm's P130-million integrated logistics project at the Laguna International Industrial Park.

Trade Undersecretary Elmer C. Hernandez, who is also BOI managing head, said Lane Archive Technologies Corp. had applied for pioneer status but was granted a non-pioneer status.

Pioneer status affords a company up to 8-year tax holiday and other fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, while a non-pioneer registration entitles a project proponent a 4-year tax holiday plus other perks.

In its application, Lane Archive said its project would be the first of its kind in commercial scale in the country.

The firm's high-technology approach may be new but files management is not a new thing in the country, Hernandez explained.

Lane Archive is primarily engaged in the business of files management including safe-keeping, safeguarding, storing, archiving, reproduction and certification of any document, writing, item or record of any kind.

Among its current clients are Citibank, Makati Medical Center, Ayala Land, Caltex Asia, IBM Philippines, Coca-Cola Bottlers, Bank of American, Avon Cosmetics and American Express Bank.

The project involves the construction of a special-purpose building in LIIP.

The facility is fitted with mechanized racking and stacking system, fire protection system, reinforced and fire-proof vaults, and computerized data base management system.

Also, the facility has closed-circuit television surveillance system, global positioning system-based monitoring, smoke and motion sensors, and biometric keypad entry system.

The technology used is meant to provide real-time and online information about the records and documents.

To start commercial operation in January 2007, the project would create 56 new jobs. *R. Domingo*

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Banks' real estate exposure slightly down to P184.3B

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE REAL ESTATE LOAN EXPOSURE OF commercial banks declined by 0.7 percent to P184.3 billion in end-June from P185.6 billion a quarter ago, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reported.

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said on Friday the P1.3 billion decline in the combined real estate loans of regular commercial banks and universal banks was due to the settlement of loans, coupled with the sale of delinquent assets under the Special Purpose Vehicle framework.

However, 20.5 percent of the total real estate loans or P37.7 billion had fallen past due during the period, the BSP reported.

The past due real estate loans declined by 2.7 percent from P38.8 billion a quarter ago, but the ratio to total real estate loans inched up from 20.3 percent in June last year.

Excluding inter-bank loans, the sector's total loans expanded by 3.4 percent from the previous quarter, pushing down the ratio of real estate loans to total loan portfolio to 11.1 percent from 11.5 percent a quarter ago.

The bulk of the total real estate loans was held by the bank proper while 3.2 percent was in the books of trust departments.

Real estate lending accounted for 91.8 percent of the banking sector's total exposure to the real estate industry amounting to P200.6 billion. The remaining 8.2 percent represented investments in securities issued by real estate companies.

Loans extended for the commercial property development, including infrastructure projects, accounted for 83.6 percent or P154.4 billion of the total real estate loans.

The remaining 16.2 percent was granted to individual borrowers for the acquisition of residential units.

Another form of exposure to the real estate industry is investment in commercial papers issued by and in equities of real estate companies, which likewise declined by 3.8 percent to P16.4 billion from P17 billion a quarter ago.

Compared to their exposure to securities of real estate companies a year ago, however, the end-June level was still higher by 1.4 percent.

The sector's combined exposure to real estate loans and securities amounted to P200.62 billion as of end-June, slightly lower than P201.91 billion a year ago.

Global Destiny expands operations

By Clarissa S. Batino

GLOBAL DESTINY CABLE INC., the country's second-largest cable television operator, is implementing a P200-million expansion program in major cities in Metro Manila to win more subscribers.

Global Destiny president Philip Chien said the company would eventually offer high-speed data services.

Chien said the expansion program was already 60 percent completed and would be fully implemented next year.

"We have programmed P100 million for this year and we will spend another P100 million next year. Once completed, Metro Manila will be fully covered by Global Destiny," said Chien.

The expansion program involves the rollout of fiber optic cables all over the metropolis, to replace standard wires presently installed. Chien said fiber optic cables would ensure reliability of the signal and would give subscribers a consistent and undisrupted cable TV viewing.

Global Cable Inc. of Chien and Destiny Cable Inc. controlled by Elena Lim of the Solid Group merged last year.

"Wherever Global Destiny is not present, we are going. And where we are already, we are trying to strengthen with the use of fiber optics," said Chien.

CalPERS

From page B10

those meetings were clients and representatives of big banks CSFB, JP Morgan, HSBC, Citigroup, Merrill Lynch and of credit rating agencies Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings. "Investor confidence in the government's achievement of fiscal targets in the short and medium-term rests absolutely on the full implementation of the VAT law," Pizarro said.

He said the government had given its firm commitment to the full implementation of the VAT law.

"Tax administration improvements, continuing efforts to prevent the deterioration of GOCC (government-owned and -controlled corporations) finances and pursue the privatization of the power sector have been noted as important to deficit reduction goals but investors gives preference to the preservation of the integrity of the VAT law and its full implementation," Pizarro said.

CalPERS kept the Philippines on its list of 19 "permissible" investment sites this year.

In a report released in April, CalPERS gave the Philippines a score of 2.0, the minimum rating needed to stay on its favored equity market list, based on the latest annual assessment by Wilshire.

The score was slightly down from 2.12 in 2004, so far the best score the Philippines has obtained from Wilshire since 2002.

The Philippines passed five out of seven country and market factors that Wilshire used in the assessment. It garnered its best rating of 3.0 in two categories: transparency, and market regulation/legal protection/investor protection.

The country flunked in political stability and capital market openness, getting a grade of 1.0.

The country was rated 2.0 in the three other remaining categories: productive labor practices, market liquidity and volatility, and settlement proficiency/transaction costs.

The Philippines was almost stricken off CalPERS' radar screen in 2004 if not for the intense lobbying by a Philippine delegation led by US Ambassador Albert Del Rosario that contested the ratings in some of the categories used by Wilshire

Capwire, PT&T seek at least P500M in new capital

By Clarissa S. Batino

DEBT-RIDDEN CAPITOL WIRELESS INC. and sister firm Philippine Telegraph &Telephone Corp. are in need of at least P500 million in fresh capital to turn its operations around, one of the owners said.

Capwire president Maureen Santiago said the company was in talks with various groups that were interested in putting in at least $5 million (roughly P280 million) in new money.

"PT&T would need much more than $5 million. Both Capwire and PT&T are talking with potential investors," said Santiago in an interview.

Capwire and PT&T are among the communication companies trying to find a niche in the evolving telecommunications sector now dominated by mobile phone companies.

Cellular companies killed the paging industry, which was one of the major businesses of the Santiago family under Philippine Wireless Inc., which owned Pocketbell.

"It is really hard. We are trying to find a niche," said Santiago.

Capwire is trying its best to survive in the competitive data business.

The company is restructuring about a billion pesos in debt.

PT&T had gone ahead with its debt restructuring. It signed three years ago with its creditors a master restructuring agreement covering 80 percent of its P8.8 billion obligations. Half of the amount was to be converted into equity.

AstraZeneca

AstraZeneca Announces New Partnerships in the Philippines

11 October 2005 – AstraZeneca today announced new partnerships with Zuellig Pharma Corporation (ZPC) and Interphil Laboratories (IPL), respectively, to distribute and manufacture its pharmaceutical products in the Philippines.

For over 30 years, AstraZeneca in the Philippines (AZPPI) has been delivering innovative health care solutions to its customers to meet the medical needs of the Philippine community. It is committed to continuing this legacy well into the future and will bring new medicines and better service to our customers. In order to secure this and to maximise service, AstraZeneca has decided to form strategic partnership with ZPC.

"These new partnerships will continue to provide our customers with the highest level of service in the industry and at the same time enable AstraZeneca to increase its focus on Clinical Research, Sales and Marketing and deliver its declared commitment to a long term future in meeting the needs of patients in the Philippines," Dr. Christina Rangemark Akerman, Marketing Company President, AZPPI, said today.

As part of this partnership:

- ZPC will manage all distribution requirements;
- IPL will manufacture a range of products currently produced by AstraZeneca;
- AZPPI will sell its Bicutan facility and move to new offices in 2006;
- All manufacturing associates will be separated from the company and receive a generous separation package; advice on proper investment and business opportunities; and
- The majority of AstraZeneca employees will be offered employment with our new partners.

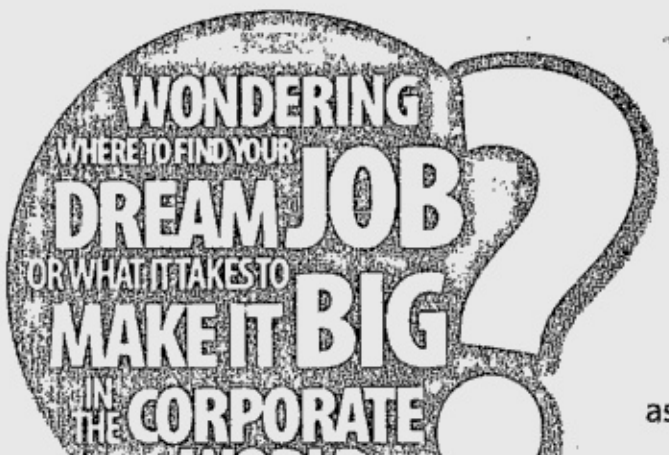
The partnership will take effect from 1st January 2006.

AstraZeneca is committed to a future in the Philippines and will continue its focus in the areas of Clinical Research, Sales and Marketing.

About AstraZeneca

AstraZeneca is major international healthcare business engaged in the research, development, manufacture and marketing of prescription pharmaceuticals and the supply of healthcare services. It is one of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies with healthcare sales over $21.4 billion and leading positions in sales of gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, respiratory, oncology and neuroscience products. AstraZeneca is listed in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (Global) as well as the FTSE4Good Index.

AstraZeneca has announced new partnerships with **Zuellig Pharma Corporation** and **Interphil Laboratories, Inc.**, respectively, to distribute and manufacture its pharmaceutical products in the Philippines. In photo from left to right: **Mr. Santiago Garcia**, Chief Operating Officer, Interphil Laboratories; **Dr. Christina Akerman**, Marketing Company President, AstraZeneca; **Mr. Michael Becker**, President and Chief Executive, Zuellig Pharma, during the signing ceremonies.



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Retail seen to fuel Asia's growth

ASIA WILL CONTINUE TO GROW despite economic challenges in the region, and this will be fueled mainly by a vibrant retail sector.

This was the gist of the six-country report presented by Samie Lim of the Philippine Retailers Association (PRA) at the 12th Asian Retailers Convention and Exhibition held recently at the Great Hall in Beijing, China.

In his presentation before some 3,000 convention participants, Lim showed the upbeat growth of the retail industries in India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines.

In 2004, he said, India posted sales of $331.8 billion or 9.2 percent higher than year ago; Indonesia, $21 billion or 6 percent growth; Thailand, $58.6 billion

THE REGION has the fastest growing consumer markets

or 13.2 percent growth; Malaysia, $13.6 billion or 8 percent growth; Singapore, $17.9 billion or 10 percent growth, and the Philippines, $31.9 billion or 6.8 percent growth. Each country's retail sales translated to a 10 percent to 16 percent contribution to their respective gross domestic product (GDP).

He also noted that with the growing population of Asian countries, including the Philippines, retailers were looking at east Asia as an attractive retail market. With an average of more than 2 percent yearly growth in domestic population, and with India and Indonesia being the 2nd and 4th most populated countries in the world, respectively, the opportunity for foreign investors to look at Asia as a business haven has greatly improved.

Germany's Metro Group CEO Hans-Joachim Koerber (Germany), in his keynote speech, described Asia as "an awakening giant."

He added that "by having the fastest growing consumer markets, Asia was set to displace western countries as the focus for international economic dynamism. Rising Asia will also continue to reshape globalization. It

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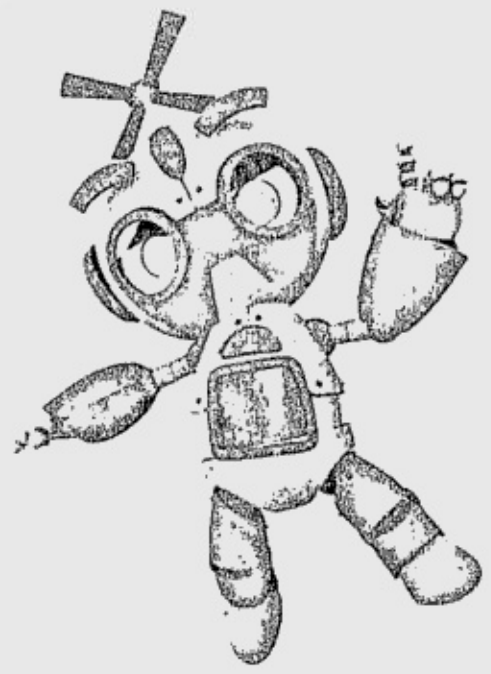

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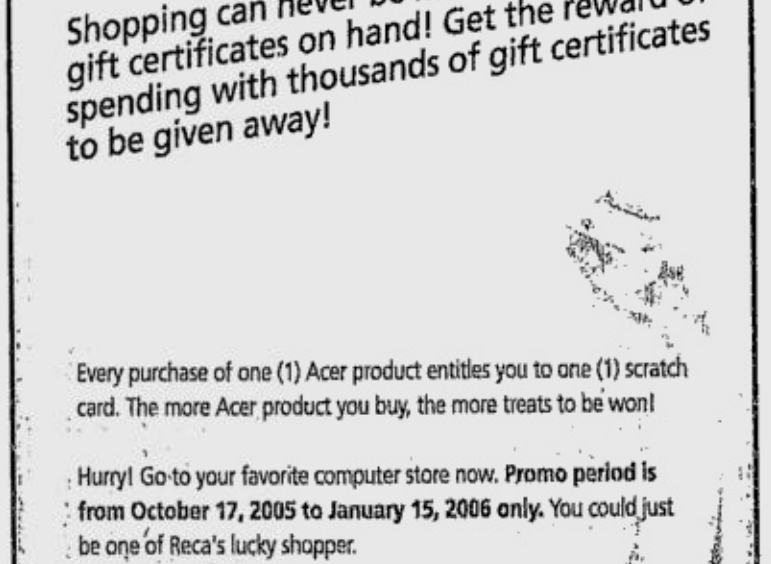

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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. AFF. 05-002

Revised rules Governing Philippine Citizenship under Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9225 and Administrative Order (A.O.) No. 91, Series of 2004

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 9225 declares that natural-born citizens of the Philippines who become citizens of another country shall retain or reacquire Philippine citizenship upon taking an oath of allegiance to the republic and subject to such other conditions provided therein;

WHEREAS, to encourage a higher turn-out of applicants for retention and re-acquisition of Philippine citizenship, there is need to further simplify the rules and regulations implementing R.A. 9225.

WHEREAS, in keeping with the spirit and intent of the law, former natural-born Philippine citizens seeking to avail of the benefits of RA 9225 shall be presumed to be natural-born citizens unless proven otherwise.

WHEREAS, A.O. No. 91, Section 1 designates the Bureau of Immigration (BI), in consultation with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of Justice (DOJ) and Office of the Civil Registrar-General and National Statistics Office (NSO), as the implementing agency of R.A. No. 9225;

WHEREAS, A.O. No. 91, Section 2 authorizes the BI to promulgate and issue rules and regulations to implement R.A. No. 9225.

WHEREFORE, by authority of A.O. No. 91, Section 2 in relation to Commonwealth Act No. 613, Section 3, as amended, the following rules are hereby adopted to carry out the provisions of R.A. No. 9225.

Section 1. Coverage. -

These rules shall apply to natural-born citizens of the Philippines as defined by Philippine law and jurisprudence, who have lost their Philippine citizenship by reason of their naturalization as citizens of a foreign country.

Section 2. Former natural-born Philippine citizen in the country. -

A former natural-born citizen of the Philippines who is in the country shall file a verified petition for retention/reacquisition of Philippine citizenship with the Bureau of Immigration.

If the former Philippine citizen is registered as an alien with the Bureau, he/she shall include in his petition a request for the cancellation of his/her Alien Certificate of Registration (ACR) and Immigrant Certificate of Residence (ICR) or Certificate of Residence for Temporary Visitors (CRTV), as the case may be.

He/she shall likewise be issued an Identification Certificate subject to existing rules and regulations in the issuance of the same. Thereafter, he/she may opt to apply for a Philippine passport with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) as he/she may deem necessary.

Section 3. Former natural-born Philippine citizen abroad. -

A former natural-born citizen of the Philippines who is abroad shall file a verified petition with the nearest Philippine Foreign Post, for retention/reacquisition of Philippine citizenship.

If the former Philippine citizen who is abroad is registered as an alien with the Bureau, he/she shall include in his petition a request for the cancellation of his/her Alien Certificate of Registration (ACR) and Immigrant Certificate of Residence (ICR) or Certificate of Residence for Temporary Visitors (CRTV) as the case may be.

The concerned Philippine Foreign Posts are hereby authorized to issue an Identification Certificate (IC), subject to existing BI rules and regulations in the issuance of the same. Thus, applicant may likewise apply for the issuance of an Identification Certificate or opt to apply for a Philippine passport as he/she may deem necessary.

Section 4. Petition and Photographs.

An applicant for retention/reacquisition of Philippine citizenship, must indicate in his Petition the following:

a) His/her full name as shown in the foreign naturalization certificate or foreign passport. In case of change of name, the applicant should also state the name appearing in the birth certificate or the old Philippine passport;
b) His/her latest forwarding address;
c) His/her date and place of birth and civil status;
d) Name and citizenship of the parents at the time of applicant's birth.
e) Name, date and place of birth of child beneficiary, if any;
f) Two (2) recent 2" x 2" photographs of the applicant shall be attached to the petition.

Section 5. Fees.-

Each applicant under these Rules shall pay a one-time fee for the processing of the application and issuance of the corresponding IC.

Applicants in the Philippines shall attach the official receipt for the amount of P2,500.00, as proof of payment of processing fee. Applicants abroad shall attach the official receipt for the amount of US$50 or its equivalent in foreign currency acceptable to the Philippine Foreign Post concerned.

Each beneficiary shall be assessed a separate processing fee of P1,250.00 or US$25.00 or its equivalent in foreign currency acceptable to the Philippine Foreign Post concerned.

Section 6. Proof as natural-born citizen of the Philippines. -

A former natural-born citizen of the Philippines shall enjoy the presumption that he/she was a natural-born Filipino provided, that proof of Philippine citizenship is submitted. In determining Philippine citizenship, a copy of at least one of the following shall be submitted, the original of which shall be presented and appropriately marked by the evaluating officer "original seen and verified".

1. Philippine Birth Certificate;
2. Old Philippine Passport;
3. Voter's affidavit or voter's identification card;
4. Marriage Contract indicating the Philippine citizenship of the applicant; and
5. Such other documents that would show that the applicant is a former natural born citizen of the Philippines as may be acceptable to the evaluating officer.

In all cases, the evaluating officer may require the submission of additional documents if there is reasonable ground to believe that the applicant is not a former natural-born Filipino.

Section 7. Discrepancy in the name of the applicant. -

Where the name of the applicant in his/her birth certificate or other documents submitted for consideration, is different from that in his/her foreign passport and other documents the applicant shall execute an affidavit explaining such difference and attach as supporting documents, at least two (2) public or private documents showing the correct name of the applicant, the original of which shall be presented and appropriately marked by the evaluating officer "original seen and verified".

In such a case, the Order granting the application shall state the name as appearing in the birth certificate, followed, as an alias, by the name as appearing in the foreign passport.

If the applicant secured a correction of entry of his/her birth certificate with the appropriate Local Civil Registrar or the Court, the Order and the Identification Certificate, if any, shall state the name of the applicant as reflected in the annotated birth certificate.

For documents issued abroad, the applicant shall submit copies that have been duly authenticated by the Philippine Consulate in the place where the documents was issued.

Section 8. The Oath of Allegiance. -

Applicants under these Rules shall take and be given their Oath of Allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines as follows:

> I (name of the applicant) solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines and obey the laws and legal orders promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Philippines, and I hereby declare that I recognize and accept the supreme authority of the Philippines and will maintain true faith and allegiance thereto, and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

Section 9. Certificate of Naturalization -

Applicants shall be required to submit a photocopy of their Certificate of Naturalization. In the absence of the same, the applicant may submit an affidavit explaining the circumstances by which the foreign citizenship was acquired.

Section 10. Compliance and Approval procedures. -

All petitions must strictly comply with the preceding requirements prior to filing at the Office of the Commissioner or at nearest Philippine Foreign Post, as the case may be. After the filing of the petition, it shall be assigned to an evaluating officer who shall evaluate the same without further proceedings.

If the petition is found to be sufficient in form and in substance, the evaluating officer shall submit the findings and recommendation to the Commissioner of Immigration or Consul-General, as the case may be, within five (5) days from date of assignment.

For applications of former Philippine citizens who are not registered as aliens with the BI, the Commissioner of Immigration, in cases of applications filed under Section 2, or the Consul General, in cases of applications filed under Section 3, shall issue, within five (5) days from receipt thereof, an Order of Approval indicating that the petition complies with the provisions of R.A. No. 9225 and its IRR, and the corresponding IC, as the case may be.

For applications of BI registered aliens filed under Section 2, the Commissioner shall further direct the Chief of the Alien Registration Division (ARD) to cancel the subject ACR and ICR/CRTV. Each cancelled ACR and ICR/CRTV shall be attached to the duplicate copy of the Order of Approval and the Oath of Allegiance, to form part of the records of the applicant.

For applications of BI registered aliens filed under Section 3, the Consul General shall require the applicant to surrender his/her original ACR and ICR/CRTV, or in its absence, an affidavit of loss of said documents for transmittal to the BI, before issuing the Order of Approval. The BI upon receipt of the applicant's records shall immediately cancel the subject's ACR and ICR/CRTV.

In case of petitions that do not comply with the requirements, the applicant shall be notified to submit the required documents within thirty (30) days from receipt thereof. Otherwise, the petition shall not be favorably acted upon by the BI or by the Philippine Foreign Post.

If after evaluation, the documents submitted fail to establish that the applicant was a former citizen of the Philippines, the applicant shall be notified of such fact in writing by the Commissioner of Immigration or by the Philippine Foreign Post.

Section 11. Retention/Reacquisition of Philippine Citizenship. -

Subject to full compliance with these Rules, the Oath of Allegiance shall be the final act to retain/reacquire Philippine citizenship.

In case the applicant is in the Philippines, he may take his Oath of Allegiance before the Commissioner of Immigration or any officer authorized under existing laws to administer oaths. In the latter case, the applicant shall submit the Oath of Allegiance to the BI to form part of his records.

In case the applicant is abroad, only the Consul General or a duly commissioned foreign service officer of the Philippine Foreign Post concerned shall administer the Oath of Allegiance.

Section 12. Repository of records. -

The BI Records Section shall maintain the integrity of all the documents filed under these Rules. It shall send official copies of the Order of Approval and Oath of Allegiance to the NSO.

Section 13. Copies for the applicant. Correction of errors.

The applicant shall be provided with official copies of the Order of Approval and the Oath of Allegiance. Further, all IC's which may be issued under these Rules shall indicate Philippine citizenship under R.A. No. 9225 and A.O. No. 91, s. of 2004. Any clerical error or errors in the Order of the entries in the IC may be corrected, upon written request to and approval by the Commissioner of Immigration. The NSO shall be promptly provided with a copy of the corrected IC.

Section 14. Confidentiality of Records. -

Any application, document or information given before the BI or any Philippine Foreign Post shall not be divulged in any manner to any person or entity without the express written consent of the person to whom such application, record or information belongs.

Section 15. Other beneficiaries of R.A. No. 9225.

A child, whether legitimate, illegitimate or adopted, who is below eighteen (18) years of age, shall be considered to have reacquired the Philippine citizenship at the same time the father or mother re-acquires Philippine citizenship provided the applicant includes the child as a beneficiary and pays the appropriate fees prescribed under Section 5.

Each beneficiary shall be required to submit (i) photocopy of birth certificate and (ii) photocopy of foreign passport.

A child who is 18 years of age or above at the time of the parent's reacquisition of Philippine citizenship but was born when either parent was still a Filipino citizen, shall be considered to have been a natural born Filipino and may apply for reacquisition of Philippine citizenship on his/her own behalf.

In addition, the applicant must show proof that either or both parents were Filipino citizens at the time of his/her birth.

Section 16. Beneficiary is adopted. -

If the beneficiary under Section 4 of R.A. 9225 is a child who was adopted abroad, the applicant shall submit the adoption decree duly authenticated by the appropriate Philippine Consulate.

If the beneficiary was adopted in the Philippines, the applicant shall submit a certified true copy of the adoption decree.

Section 17. Philippine citizens who became aliens after the effectivity of R.A. 9225. -

These Rules shall likewise apply to Philippine citizens who have become a citizen of another country after the effectivity date of R.A. 9225.

Section 18. Exemption from administrative review. -

Retention/reacquisition of Philippine citizenship under these Rules shall not be subject to the affirmation by the Secretary of Justice pursuant to DOJ Policy Directive of 7 September 1970 and DOJ Opinion No. 108 (series of 1996).

However, the Order of Approval issued under these Rules may be revoked by the Department of Justice upon a substantive finding of fraud, misrepresentation or concealment on the part of the applicant and after an administrative hearing initiated by an aggrieved party or by the Bureau of Immigration.

Section 19. Repealing Clause. -

Provisions of other memorandum circulars inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 20. Effectivity. -

This memorandum circular takes effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

(Sgd.) **ALIPIO F. FERNANDEZ, JR.**
Commissioner

APPROVED:

(Sgd.) **HON. RAUL M. GONZALEZ**
Secretary of Justice

(PDI - Oct. 17, 2005)

2006 better year for RP, Neda says

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND Development Authority says next year will be a better one for the Philippines with the expected rebound in the exports of electronics, minerals and agriculture products.

According to Neda Director for policy and planning Dennis Arroyo, the electronics sector, which has been in the doldrums for the last two years, will bounce back as the launching of the new version of Microsoft Office will require new demand for computer hardware manufactured locally.

He also said that the country's participation in the Early Harvest Program with China would result in higher agriculture product exports of fresh produce, including coconut, mango and seaweeds.

"It is also worth noting that the Philippines received the third largest allocation for sugar imports to the United States market next year," he added.

Arroyo also said that industrial production by local manufacturing firms of automobiles would also turn out well in 2006 as some $500 million in foreign direct investments would pour in with expansions set by Ford Philippines and its subsidiary, Mazda.

Meantime, the Neda official said that the 2005 growth target of 5.3 percent was still attainable as the strong performance of the agriculture, services and minerals sector would provide the needed boost to the domestic economy in the second semester.

"The average oil price increases to date has been at $50.61 per barrel. This is still within the $50.77 per barrel average we have set for the entire year," explained Arroyo.

Moreover, he said that the 22 percent increase in remittances to almost $10 billion from overseas Filipino workers has mitigated the decline in household consumption.

Inflation for '05 seen exceeding 5-6% target

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE GOVERNMENT EXPECTS inflation this year to average between 7.6 percent and 7.9 percent, exceeding the target of 5-6 percent, due to skyrocketing oil prices.

But Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said the medium-term targets would be kept and that monetary authorities would continue to be cautious of threats to the inflation outlook.

From January to September this year, the country's inflation rate has so far averaged at 7.9 percent, while Dubai oil prices averaged at about $49 a barrel versus $33.63 a barrel last year.

The BSP expects average crude prices to reach nearly $50 a barrel for 2005.

For next year, the government has set the inflation target at 4-5 percent and for 2007, at 3-4 percent.

But with oil prices showing no signs of going down, the government admits that actual inflation rates may exceed the targets over the next two years.

Escalating inflationary pressures have in turn prompted the BSP to hike rates this year.

It adjusted its key overnight rates by 25 basis points last April, and again in September.

It likewise raised the reserve requirement on banks by two percentage points last July.

The local financial market believes further tightening may be inevitable.

ING Bank economist Joey Cuyegkeng projected that the country's benchmark 91-day Treasury bill rates would likely hit 6.25 percent by the year's end on expected monetary tightening by the BSP.

DOF shoots down plan to cut debt service rule

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE has rejected calls from Congress to do away with the automatic budget appropriation for debt payments.

The DOF said setting aside the budget for maturing debts was one of the factors enabling the Philippines to easily access the credit market.

Foreign creditors may close their doors on the Philippines if they would not be assured of getting paid on time, the DOF explained.

"If we want to reduce our debt, then we should instead work on wiping out our budget deficit," said Finance Assistant Secretary Gil Beltran.

Calls to put a stop to the automatic appropriation were again raised during the deliberation of the proposed 2006 budget in the House of Representatives last week.

Although legislators from the Lower House approved the proposed 2006 budget of P1.053 trillion, Beltran said many of them criticized Republic Act No. 1177 and expressed plans to scrap the law.

RA 1177, which has been in place since the Marcos regime, empowers the national government to set the budget for debt servicing without the need for Congress approval.

Calls to scrap RA 1177 are usually raised during annual deliberations of proposed national budgets.

Critics of the law said that not much money is left for infrastructure and basic services due to substantial debt payments.

Of the proposed national budget for 2006, around one-third will automatically go to servicing interest payments.

Principal debt is usually paid using borrowed money.

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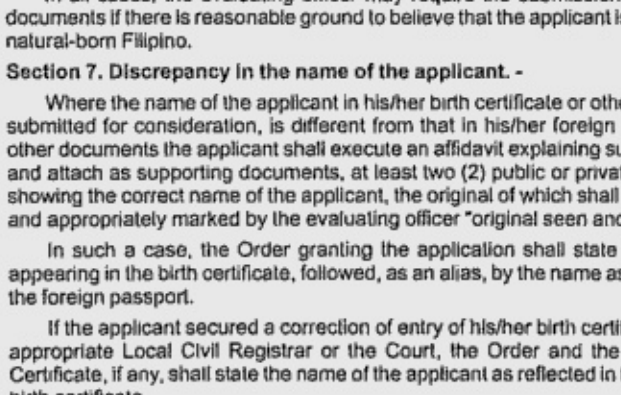

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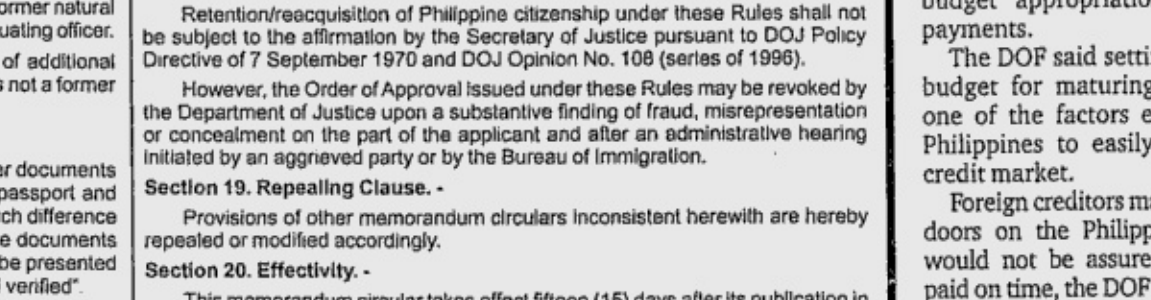

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From page B13

will give globalization less of a 'Made in USA' or 'Made in Europe' character, but more of an Asian look and feel."

In the meantime, Lim said that the markets of the six Asian countries covered in the report had become relatively young, educated and westernized. This translates to a young consumer market with high disposable income. Many economies in Southeast Asia will reap the benefits of this demographic dividend, he added.

Aside from trade liberalization being implemented by the government of the six countries in luring foreign investments, Lim also stressed the significance of tourism in the growth of their economies. The annual influx of foreign visitors particularly in Southeast Asia has tremendously increased over the years with Malaysia leading Asean countries with regards to the volume of international visitor arrivals having a total of 15 million in 2004.

SO THE TRUTH MAY BE KNOWN

To avoid any confusion and to disclose the whole truth as to who are the controlling shareholders of Philippine Overseas Telecommunications Corp. (POTC) and Philippine Communications Satellite Corp. (Philcomsat), the following are the undisputed facts:

- **MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS OF POTC:**

1. **NATIONAL GOVERNMENT (40%)**. Prior to the controversial compromise agreement with the late Potenciano Ilusorio, government had 40% interest. The 5% being claimed by Ilusorio is still subject to payment of capital gains and documentary stamp taxes, and the surrender of the original stock certificates.

2. **"NIETO SHARES" (13%, undisputed)**. The Nieto shares comprise an undisputed 13% of the shareholdings of POTC, with Aerocom Investors & Managers, Inc. having 1,668 shares.

3. **"ILUSORIO SHARES" (13%, subject of probate proceedings)**. The Ilusorio shares are still subject of a probate case. The rights to an additional 5% shares are still incomplete. The shares may be increased to 18% but subject to final implementation and approval by the courts. Even assuming that the Ilusorio bloc has 18%, it is still not enough to muster a majority and take control over POTC and Philcomsat.

4. **"POBLADOR SHARES" (12%, partitioned among heirs)**.* The Poblador shares are subject to partition and distribution among the legal heirs as directed in the final order of the Pasig City Regional Trial Court, Branch 159 issued on September 29, 1997.

5. **"AFRICA SHARES" (7%, sequestered)**.* The sequestered Africa shares are substantially in the name of Polygon Investors & Managers, Inc. The sequestered shares can only be voted by the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG).

6. **"BENEDICTO SHARES" (3%)**. The Benedicto shares are in the names of Roberto S. Benedicto.

7. **TRADERS ROYAL BANK (4%)**. The shares have been assigned and ceded to Bank of Commerce.

8. **"ENRILE SHARES" (7%)**.* The Enrile shares are registered in the names of Jaka Investment Corporation and Katrina Ponce-Enrile.

* The shares are subject of reconveyance cases filed by the PCGG before the Sandiganbayan docketed as Civil Case No. 0009.

- **SEQUESTRATION ORDERS OVER POTC AND PHILCOMSAT**

Pursuant to the sequestration orders over the companies, the PCGG must have active participation in the stockholders' meetings to be called by the companies. PCGG and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) were present during the stockholders' meetings held in August 2004.

- **STOCKHOLDERS' MEETINGS IN AUGUST 2004**

In August 2004, upon the initiative of the SEC and the affirmation of the PCGG of government's 40% interest, POTC and Philcomsat stockholders' meetings were held on August 5, 2004 and August 9, 2004, respectively, to determine the legitimate board and representatives of POTC and Philcomsat. More than 60% of the major shareholders were duly represented and voted during the elections: the GOVERNMENT, the NIETO GROUP, POBLADOR GROUP, and the ILUSORIO FAMILY CORPORATIONS.

There is no suit questioning the quorum present during the stockholders' meetings in August 2004. The petition filed by Victor Africa before the Court of Appeals essentially pertained only to the jurisdiction of the SEC, and not to the lack of quorum during the POTC and Philcomsat meetings. Other legal actions attempting to enjoin the proxies from voting the shares proved futile; thus, the POTC and Philcomsat Board of Directors were duly elected.

The foregoing facts, which are based on official records and documents and not biased opinions, should dispel any further confusion over the essential issues concerning the seeming controversies involving POTC and Philcomsat.

It is a basic principle in corporation law that the minority bloc of shareholders cannot control the corporation. Please note that **AFRICA, BILDNER AND THEIR BLOC DO NOT COMPRISE THE MAJORITY TO CONTROL THE CORPORATIONS**. They cannot elect themselves into office as purported directors and officers without mustering a quorum. Their resort to published statements with self-serving assumptions and conclusions cannot and do not negate this fact.

Management and control over POTC and Philcomsat is still being exercised by the legitimate Board of Directors duly-elected in August 2004.

Philippine Overseas Telecommunications Corporation

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late AMADEO JAVATE GALLARDO JR has been extrajudicially settled by his heirs as per doc no 60 page no 12,book no 122 series of 2005 before Notary Public Daniel Balanoba of Quezon City

(PDI-Oct. 10,17,24,2005)

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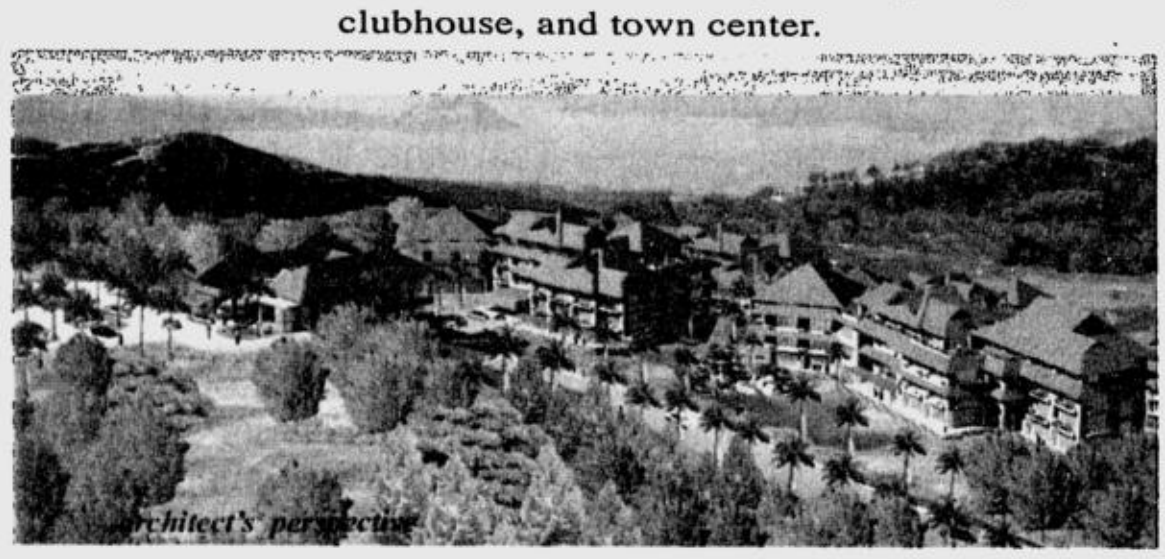

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CENTRAL HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
5/F Domingo Bldg. III, 2113 Chino Roces Ave., cor. Dela Rosa St., Makati City

All Applications shall be treated with utmost confidentiality.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late LUIS J. LAREZA and BELLA G. LAREZA has been extrajudicially settled by their heirs with an extrajudicial settlement with quitclaim as per Doc No 353, Page 69, Book V , series of 2005 before notary public Atty. Armando G. Quinto of Quezon City.
(PDI-Oct. 10, 17, & 24 2005)

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT
Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of the late Teodora D. Garcia has been extrajudicially settled by her legal heirs under Doc. No. 437; Page 88; Book No. VIII; Series of 2005 of Notary Public Dr. Jose Teodorico V. Molina of Quezon City. (PDI Oct. 10,17 & 24, 2005)

ERRATUM
In the legal notice advertisement of Edna Benedicto printed in this paper Oct. 10, 2005 (1st issue) the word intestate was omitted. It should have read "intestate estate of the late TEODORA D. GARCIA."
Our apologies

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that the Ayala Preferred B Shares Cert. No. 2984-100,000 shares issued on 04/24/97 under Natividad N. Alimurung were declared lost. If no contest received, new certificate will be issued. (PDI-Oct. 17, 24 & 31, 2005)

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STARCM

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Project Management Office
✉: 3rd Floor ROMA Building, Quezon Boulevard, Kidapawan City 9400
☎ Tel. #: (064) 278-4009 Fax: (064) 278-4252 Email: starcm@philcom.ph

DAR

NOTICE OF VACANT POSITION

STARCM is a special Project of the Government of the Philippines funded by the European Union and implemented by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR). The Project provides support for the development of agrarian reform communities in the provinces of Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur. The Project is seeking to fill the position with duty station at the STARCM Project Management Office in Kidapawan City:

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (1) Duty Station: Kidapawan City	BS/MS Degree in Applied Social Sciences or related discipline with more than 5 years in institutional development work focused on community organizing/community development, capacity-building & organizational development. Experience should also include training management: from TNA, project administration/ coordination and evaluation; networking and alliance-building with NGOs and LGUs. Relevant work experience as frontline worker and/or supervisor/program manager is required.

The Specialist must be physically fit and prepared to undertake fieldwork throughout Central Mindanao. S/he must be fluent in English and highly proficient with MS Office software. S/he should know how to drive a motorcycle and possess a professional driver's license.

Only shortlisted applicants will be notified. Deadline for the submission of applications is on **28 OCTOBER 2005.**

(Sgd.) GLYNN P. BAKER
European Co-Director

(Sgd.) OSCAR A. MAMA
National Project Director

An application letter, including a resumé detailing duties, responsibilities and relevant experience, and a copy of transcript of records should be submitted to:

The Project Co-Directors
STARCM Project Management Office
3/F ROMA Building, Quezon Boulevard
9400 Kidapawan City

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ERRATUM

Classified Ads on October 13, 2005 PDI issue for BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITIONS in the Office of the Ombudsman (Visayas) for Iloilo Regional Office No. VI shall be read as follows:

GRAFT INVESTIGATION OFFICER I, (2) Item Nos. OMBA-GIO1-24-2004, OMBA-GIO1-25-2004; SG-26; EDUCATION: Bachelor of Laws; EXPERIENCE: 3 years of relevant experience in the practice of law, counseling, investigation/prosecution of cases, hearings of administrative/criminal cases, legal research or other related work; TRAINING: 24 hours of relevant training; ELIGIBILITY: RA 1080 (Bar).

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John 14:6

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INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
- Copy of Death Certificate;
- Any identification document (I.D.)

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Memories
Inquirer The Power of Knowing
In cooperation with City Government of Manila
This year, the Philippine Daily Inquirer brings forth
Memories EXPO
An exhibit especially organized to bring together products and services relating to Death Care and more
Bonifacio Shrine (beside Manila City Hall)
October 25-26, 2005

Florentina Sandico Guzman

(Wife of deceased Col. Ernesto L. Guzman)

peacefully joined her Creator on October 13, 2005 at the age of 83.

Her bereaved children: Claro & Monette, Marvy & Alex, Celia & Cef (deceased), Jong & Yohlee, Ike & Liz, grandchildren request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at Sampaguita Chapel, La Funeraria Paz, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Cremation will be on Thursday, October 20, 2005, 7:00 A.M. at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat Parañaque City.

CLASSIFIEDS

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Maynila, Pilipinas

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project / Brief Description	One (1) lot – Supply, delivery, installation and implementation of Email Enhancement: Virus and Spam Protection per BSP technical specifications and scope of work.
Approved Budget for the Contract	P 3,700,000.00
Contract Duration	Within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of the approved Contract

Prospective Bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	17 OCTOBER to 09 NOVEMBER 2005
2. Pre-Bid Conference	11 NOVEMBER 2005 at 10:00 A.M.
3. Opening of Bids	22 NOVEMBER 2005 at 2:00 P.M.
4. Bid Evaluation	These shall be in accordance with the prescribed periods allowed in the Implementing Rules & Regulations (IRR)-A of R.A. No. 9184 dated 10 January 2003
5. Post-qualification	
6. Notice of Award	

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of P1,850.00 to the BSP Cashier.

The BSP assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

The BSP reserves the right to reject any and all bid proposals, or declare the bidding a failure, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) JUAN DE ZUÑIGA, JR.
Chairman

(PDI – October 17, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Corporation Finance Department
6th Floor SEC Bldg. EDSA, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.725-8508; 728-2264; Fax 728-2990
Website: http://www.sec.gov.ph

IN THE MATTER OF:
GSM CEBU INVESTOR FINANCE CORPORATION
(Formerly, GSM Cebu Lending Investor, Inc.)
APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO OPERATE AS A FINANCING COMPANY

NOTICE AND ORDER

Notice is hereby given that the above-named corporation has filed an application for a Certificate of Authority to engage in financing business in accordance with Sections 2, 4 and 5 of the Rules and Regulations to Implement the Provisions of Republic Act No. 8556 (The Financing Company Act of 1998). Its principal office shall be in G/F, Athecor Bldg., Hi-way, Tipolo, Mandaue City.

Capital Structure of the Applicant:

Authorized Capital Stock	P 20,000,000.00
Subscribed Capital Stock	10,000,000.00
Paid-up Capital Stock	10,000,000.00

According to the papers/documents presented, the following persons are the directors/officers of the corporation:

Name	Position
William Gotohio	Chairman
Chu Lee Sun	Director/President
Linda Uy	Director/Secretary/Treasurer
Pedro Chao	Director/Vice-President
Shirley Lim	Director/Internal Auditor
Albino Yap	Director
Armela Santiago	Director

This Notice and Order shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks and shall be simultaneously posted in a public and conspicuous place in the City/Municipality where the office of the company is proposed to be located and in the office of the Commission.

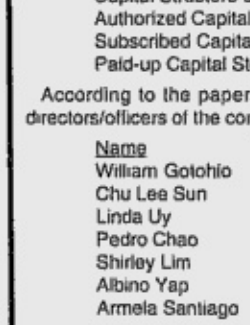
Any interested party may oppose the application in writing, personally or through counsel within two (2) weeks after the last publication of the Notice. If the Commission finds that the requirements of R.A. No. 8556, the Implementing Rules and Regulations and other pertinent laws have been complied with no valid reason exists for the disapproval of the subject application, the Commission shall take appropriate action on said application.

SO ORDERED.

September 22, 2005

(Sgd.) JUSTINA F. CALLANGAN
Director

(PDI-Oct. 17 & 24, 2005)



JOB Market
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and visit it online at www.jobmarketonline.com

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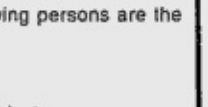

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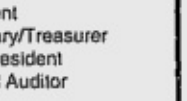
- Ford Explorer, Ford Freda, Ford Frendee,
- Nissan Serena, Caravan, Isuzu M.U.
- Largo / Homy



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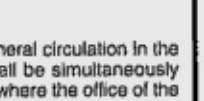

For more info, pls. Contact
Tel. Nos. 249-1818 Telefax: 249-1831
0917-5579153 Fred 0926-6911125 Emil
0910-2069813 Rey 0918-5886075 Jun

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
OLD MIA ROAD, PASAY CITY
METRO MANILA
A Century of bringing the Filipinos closer together through better transportation and communications

IN RE : LIBERALIZED CHARTER PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SERVICES AT THE DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (DMIA), SUBIC BAY INTERNATIONAL (SBIA), DAVAO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (DIA), MACTAN, CEBU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (MCIA), LAOAG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (LIA), ZAMBOANGA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (ZIA), AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL GATEWAYS.

RESOLUTION NO. 23 (2005)

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Policies under Republic Act No. 776 mandates the CAB to encourage and develop a healthy and competitive air transportation system properly adapted to the present and future requirements of foreign and domestic commerce in the Philippines.

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 219, was issued on January 03, 1995 establishing our domestic and international civil aviation liberalization policy, and mandating the CAB to promote the growth and viability of developmental routes and gateways through the encouragement of developmental air services;

WHEREAS, pursuant to our civil aviation liberalization policy, Executive Order No. 253 was subsequently issued on December 03, 2003 providing for the expansion of air services to the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport (DMIA) and Subic Bay International Airport (SBIA), through its development as a major cargo hub for the Asia Pacific Region;

WHEREAS, the promotion of the growth and viability of developmental air services in developmental routes, specifically DMIA, SBIA, DIA, MCIA, LIA, ZIA and other developmental gateways as mandated by E.O.'s 219 and 253 is essential in expanding investments, trade and tourism.

WHEREAS, the liberalization of international charter services that shall allow international operations to such developmental routes and gateways with or without readily usable allocations can help achieve the objective of promoting the growth and viability of developmental routes and gateways;

NOW, THEREFORE, the **BOARD RESOLVED** as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to adopt a liberalized charter program for international non-scheduled services and chartered services at the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport (DMIA), Subic Bay International Airport (SBIA), Davao International Airport (DIA), Mactan, Cebu International Airport (MCIA), Laoag International Airport (LIA), Zamboanga International Airport (ZIA) and other developmental routes as may be determined by the Board, under the following conditions:

1. A Philippine international carrier holding a CPCN for international scheduled air services interested in operating under the Liberalized Charter Program shall apply for a permit to operate under the said program after payment of the required fees. Such permit shall be terminus with the effective period of the permittee's CPCN, and shall be operable subject to the approval by the aviation authorities of the foreign destination proposed to be served under the program;
2. A foreign airline interested in availing of the Liberalized Charter Program which is not a holder of a Foreign Air Carrier's Permit (FACP) for scheduled services shall apply for an FACP for scheduled services in compliance with Economic Regulation No. 1 and Economic Regulation No. 2;
3. A holder of an FACP for schedule services, with or without existing allocations to Clark, Subic and other developmental routes shall apply for a permit under the Liberalized Charter Program upon payment of the required fees. Such permit shall be co-terminus with the effective period of the permittee's FACP;
4. A grantee of a permit to operate under the Liberalized Charter Program shall be allowed to operate pre-approved charter flight schedules renewable for six (6) month periods or less with authority to issue individual tickets; and
5. A grantee of a permit to operate under the Liberalized Charter Program shall comply with all other requirements that the Board may impose.

RESOLVED FURTHER to authorize the Executive Director to act on applications for permits to operate developmental routes under the Liberalized Charter Program.

12 May 2005,

Pasay City, Philippines.

x - - -

Fake medicines: More than meets the eye

THE POPULARITY OF SILDENAFIL CITRATE, commonly known as Viagra, the first medicine developed for erectile dysfunction, has made it a prime target for drug counterfeiters. It is found to be one of the most copied medicines in the world and has become widely available through various channels to consumers. In a recent US survey involving 676 men aged 35+, 20 percent of men who purchase ED medications buy them online, and two-thirds of them don't check to see if the website they are purchasing from is legitimate. Only 38 percent of all men surveyed believe it is essential to have a doctor's prescription in order to purchase (sildenafil citrate) Viagra.

Fake (sildenafil citrate) Viagra sold through the Internet or found in stores other than licensed drugstores poses safety and financial risks to consumers. There's a high probability that these were manufactured in unregulated factories or back rooms that do not adhere to the same rigorous standards for pharmaceutical manufacturing required by regulating authorities. In addition, such illegal copies may be contaminated, stored improperly, outdated, may not work as claimed, contain potentially dangerous ingredients or may have no effect at all.

The manufacturer of the medicine continues to explore and implement new technological developments to deter counterfeiting. It also uses special packaging and printing techniques that make counterfeiting both more difficult to accomplish and easier to spot. The company has also taken legal action against dozens of illegitimate online "pharmacies" and working with wholesalers, the pharmacy community, and all regulatory and law enforcement agencies, to block sales of counterfeit Viagra and illegal versions of the erectile dysfunction medication.

Spotting fake Viagra, and other fake medicines for that matter, can be daunting because by mere appearance, counterfeit medicines cannot easily be distinguished from the genuine article.

Physicians who suspect that their patients may be taking counterfeit sildenafil citrate should alert the Bureau of Food and Drugs for proper action. Patients are encouraged to buy sildenafil citrate and other medicines only from licensed outlets. Buying from unlicensed outlets not only endangers your health but will also be a waste of your resources.

"Some counterfeit drugs are packaged so professionally even holograms can be copied," said Dr. Kenneth Hartigan-Go, a pharmacologist and former deputy director of the Bureau of Food and Drugs.

Although fake and real medicines may look the same to most consumers, there is more to it than meets the eye. Counterfeit medicines may contain no active ingredients or the active ingredients are less than what is required. Because of this, counterfeit medicines have been identified as one of the causes of "therapeutic failure."

Therapeutic failure happens when a prescribed medicine does not work. "If the patient is not getting well or the disease is worsening despite treatment, a physician can look into counterfeit medicines as a possible source of the problem," Dr Hartigan-Go said. "The doctor may be in the best position to know whether or not a patient is responding to the drug."

The problem of counterfeit medicines is a major concern worldwide. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that the value of this illegal trade has reached $35 billion. In Asia, WHO believes that 10 percent of all drugs on the market are fake.

This health information is brought to you by Pfizer, a global, research-based healthcare company that discovers, develops, manufactures and markets effective and innovative medicines for humans and animals, and many of the best-known consumer products. In 2004, Pfizer, the world's largest private biomedical research organization, invested more than $7.5 billion to find cures to help preserve, protect and promote the quality of life of people all over the world.

PRA BOARD OATH-TAKING WITH GMA

The newly elected Philippine Retailers Association (PRA) board of directors for 2005-2007 took its oath of office at the Malacañang Palace recently with President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo leading the oath-taking ceremonies. Shown are (from left): PRA director Gonzalo Roque III (Kamiseta president), PRA VP for national affairs lawyer Paul Santos (Picture City president), PRA VP for international affairs Roberto Claudio (Toby's Sports & Hobbies chair), President Arroyo, PRA president Mars Chua (Sportshouse president), PRA chair Bienvenido Tantoco III (Shopwise president) and PRA corporate secretary Joey Singian (Video City GM). Other PRA officers are chair emeritus Samie Lim (Automatic Centre president), PRA VP for regional affairs Jorge Mendiola (SM SVP-operations), PRA VP for internal affairs Frederick Go (Robinsons Recreation Corp president), VP for external affairs Ma. Alegria Limjoco (Gibson Phoenix president), PRA VP for public affairs finance/treasurer Manuel Siggaoat (Manel's Leathergoods Corp chair), PRA VP for public affairs Ben Chan (Bench chair), PRA governor for NCR Chan Kok Bin (Celine CEO), PRA governor for northern Luzon Lolito Lopez (Rusty Lopez president), PRA governor for southern Luzon Romeo Tan (Liberty Commercial Center SVP for marketing), PRA VP for Visayas Jay Aldeguer (Islands Souvenirs president), PRA VP for Mindanao John Gaisano (JS Gaisano Inc president) and PRA legal counsel Ferdinand Negre (partner, Bengzon Negre Untalan Intellectual Property Lawyers).

National Fish Conservation Week starts

THE NATIONAL FISH CONSERVATION Week starts today, Oct. 17, with Agriculture Secretary Domingo F. Panganiban leading government officials in fish dispersal ceremonies at the La Mesa Dam Eco Park at 7 a.m. and Undersecretary Salvador Salacup opening a fish industry exhibit at the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) at 2 p.m.

Panganiban will sow tilapia fingerlings at the La Mesa Dam Eco Park to signal the start of nationwide fish dispersal activities participated in by BFAR's 16 regional offices. At 9 a.m., Panganiban and French Ambassador Gerard Chesnel will also open a six-day exhibit on biodiversity and Philippine fisheries at the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) in Quezon City.

Sponsored by the French embassy, the exhibit at the BSWM is open to students, teachers, researchers, non-government organizations and other interested parties. It includes showing of acclaimed Filipino and French video documentaries on the environment. There will be four screenings today and six on Oct. 19.

On the other hand, the fish industry exhibit at the lobby of BFAR office in Quezon City showcases various fisheries and other aquatic products for food and other uses. These will be sold at low prices by fish cooperatives, NGOs and other industry players up to Oct. 21, according to BFAR officer-in-charge Director Reuben A. Ganaden, who will deliver the welcome address at the exhibit's opening rites.

At the BSWM tomorrow will be a workshop on environmental education teaching strategies, and on Wednesday a symposium on the environmental impacts of aquaculture.

Also on Wednesday is the opening of the five-day Fish Show 2005 at the Glorietta Mall in Makati City. The fish show, which includes children's contests and fora for ornamental fish growers, is open to the public.

The yearly observance of the National Fish Conservation Week highlights the government's continuing efforts to avert the possible depletion of the country's marine resources due to over-fishing, water pollution and use of destructive fishing methods.

For that purpose, BFAR is tapping the youth and gearing up the regions in a vigorous national fish conservation campaign.

BFAR is the lead government agency that provides the country's fisher folk with research and development, extension support, training, and regulatory services, while conducting information campaigns and policy formulation and planning for their utmost benefit.

'Drive up your wealth' with HSBC until Oct. 31

HSBC RECENTLY LAUNCHED ITS LATEST regional wealth management campaign "Drive Up Your Wealth" in the Philippines. Currently ongoing in Hong Kong, Brunei, India, Indonesia and Malaysia, the promotion is open to HSBC Premier clients with new investments.

With every new investment of P500,000 or US$10,000 until Oct. 31, clients automatically earn one raffle entry for a chance to win a Jaguar X-type Sport in the regional draw to be held in Hong Kong in November.

Investments also entitle clients to redeem reward items such as portable DVD players, Shangri-la gift certificates, Apple i-Pod Minis, and more.

HSBC Premier is the bank's global wealth management proposition designed to meet the personal financial needs of the affluent. Clients are given access to a dedicated relationship manager, an exclusive banking center, an array of products and investment opportunities, and instant recognition worldwide.

National Power Corporation

October 14, 2005

Republic of the Philippines

Information Bulletin

Supply and Delivery of Imported Steaming Coal to Sual and Pagbilao CFTPP, CY2006

The National Power Corporation now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the Supply and Delivery of Imported Steaming Coal to Sual and Pagbilao CFTPP CY2006, Batch 1.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the Bids and Contracts Services Department (BCSD), NPC Building, Diliman, Quezon City at Tel. Nos. 922-1622 / 924-5361 or visit ***NPC (www.napocor.gov.ph) and DBM (www.procurementservice.net.com)*** website.

(Sgd.) JUAN CARLOS J. GUADARRAMA
Vice President, Logistics and
Member, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI-October 17, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON AUDIT
Regional Office No. V
Rawis, Legazpi City
Bids and Awards Committee

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. V, Rawis, Legazpi City, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites duly licensed suppliers/bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following:

Name of Project	:	Procurement of Office Service Vehicles
Location	:	Rawis, Legazpi City
Brief Description	:	Supply and delivery of five (5) units (AUV) Asian Utility Vehicle (4 units with non-sliding doors and one (1) unit with dual sliding doors), 4-cylinder Diesel engine; Displacement, 2400cc to 2500cc; Direct Injection; Manual Transmission (M/T); Rear wheel drive; Rack & Pinion Power Steering or Recirculating Ball and Nut Steering with Power Assist; Dual Air-con system w/ independent switch control; Car Stereo; Brake System-front discs and rear drum, at least 185/R-14 Tire and Wheels, Mono-tone body color, company Rust-proofing with mudguards; Standard tools with Early Warning Device (EWD), Seat Cover, tint and matting.
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	:	P4,000,000.00

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall automatically be rejected at bid opening.

2. Interested bidders may obtain a complete set of Bid Documents from the BAC Secretariat starting October 12, 2005 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Thousand (P2,000.00) pesos cash to the Cashier, COA Regional Office No. V
3. The Pre-Bid Conference shall be held on October 25, 2005, 9:00 A.M. at the COA Conference Room, COA Regional Office No. V Compound, Rawis, Legazpi City.
4. Deadline for submission of bids shall be on November 8, 2005, at 9:00 A.M. Bidders shall drop their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals in three separate sealed envelopes in the bid box located at COA Regional Office No. V, Legazpi City. Immediately after the deadline, bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend the bidding.
5. The COA Regional Office No. V reserves the right to accept and reject any and all proposals, to declare a failure of bidding, to annul the bidding process, or not award the contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) WILLY N. GUIRIBA
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

CONTACT PERSON:
Ms. Eleanor A. Macasinag
Head-BAC Secretariat
Tel. Nos. (052) 8216674 or (052) 8201539
Cellphone No. 0928-4057417
(PDI - Oct. 10 & 17, 2005)

BITS Clips

Cacnio's 'The Dancer'

SCULPTURE TORN AND HAMMERED out of metal is as hard and strong as the piece of material from which it is shaped. This is the challenge that Ferdinand Reyes Cacnio had to deal with as he portrays an intriguing new interpretation of dance performing arts from Oct. 17 to 30 in Avellana Art Gallery. Titled "The Dancer," this series is the first one-man sculpture exhibit of FR Cacnio. The exhibit renders welded metal sculptures of women caught in rapture dance. Son of artist Angel Cacnio, the BS Psychology and BS Civil Engineering graduate of UP Diliman has only practical training in the field of Fine Arts. He has been working as a graphic designer for the past 17 years before he started joining artists' groups and became more visible in the art scene. Avellana Gallery is at A-19, 2680 FB Harrison Street, Pasay City. For inquiries, call 833-8357.

Manila FAME fine jewelry

THE GUILD OF PHILIPPINE Jewellers (GPJ) brings out its finest at the Manila FAME International from Oct. 18 to 21 with display designation at the reception hall of the Philippine International Convention Center at the CCP Complex. Ma. Luisa Unson, guild president, says the fine jewelry guild showcases the best of members' creations in the areas of gold, silver and pearl jewelry. The fine jewelry presentation at the Manila FAME, the Philippine's biggest and the Asia-Pacific region's second longest bi-annual trade show, is a lead-in to the guild's Rockwell Jewellery Show from Nov. 18 to 20. Buyers may place their orders or purchase at the booths with designated representatives. A total of 18 member-companies are joining the Rockwell show.

LRT2 'Ride & Dine'

NOW, TRANSIT PASSENGERS can enjoy exciting freebies from the outlets of Gateway Mall's Food Express at Level 3 with the LRT2 "Ride & Dine" promo. Simply purchase an LRT2 Stored Value Card from any LRT2 stations to receive one Araneta Center Kit, which comes with a Food Express Frequency Card. This card entitles buyers to free food items from participating outlets at Food Express for a minimum food purchase of P150. Each frequency card contains a total of 10 freebies worth P350. The Gateway Food Express is the newest dining arena located at the third level of Gateway Mall, Araneta Center's flagship shopping and dining destination. The LRT2 "Ride & Dine" promo is ongoing until Oct. 19 only.

Philanthropy awardees revealed

THE 23 WORLDWIDE FOUNDATIONS established by Andrew Carnegie during his lifetime have announced the names of the recipients of The Andrew Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy 2005. The recipients of the awards, which are regarded as the Nobel Prize for philanthropy, are: His Highness, the Aga Khan; Anna Southall, chair of the Barrow Cadbury Trust, on behalf of the Cadbury family; Eleanor Hewlett Gimon, on behalf of the Hewlett family; Susan Packard Orr on behalf of the Packard family; Sir Tom Farmer, Scots billionaire founder of Kwik-Fit; and Agnes Gund, chair of the New York Museum of Modern Art. Named after Scots-American philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, who left the equivalent of $15 billion to philanthropy, the Medal is awarded to inspiring philanthropists. The award ceremony took place at the new home of Scotland's Parliament in Edinburgh on Oct. 4, preceded by an international philanthropy symposium. For more details, see www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk.

Noel goes on a double date

BECAUSE IT WAS DOUBLY fun last year when the two trendiest and most popular bazaars happened in one venue, that "double date" is happening again!

The joint Noel Discovery Bazaar and Christmas Shop Expo will still be in one venue, the World Trade Center, but on two dates, Nov. 25 to 27 and Dec. 21 to 23.

Doubly dedicated to providing the best venue for entrepreneurs and hobbyists, this year's Noel Bazaar and Christmas Shopping Expo will attempt to surpass last year's remarkable run. With a steady following that grows every year, Noel's concessionaires can expect the biggest crowd of eager holiday shoppers in a fruitful participation.

With the continued support of the GMA Network and Foreign Post, this year's collaborative effort will be widely published, announced and talked about, reaching visitors and potential bargain hunters.

The Noel Bazaar Series is for the benefit of the GMA Kapuso Foundation, the Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation and the Associate Missionaries of Assumption.

Don't be left out of the biggest thing to hit the shores this holiday season. Book your spaces for both dates to avail yourselves of the promotional discounts. For booking and/or inquiries, call Cut Events and Exhibition Managers at 687-0654, 687-2955, or e-mail cut@pacific.net.ph.

ProductFiles

Bicycle gear

AS THE COUNTRY OBSERVES ALL Saints Day, Filipinos are looking forward to another extended holiday. While some may opt to go cool their heels on a resort down south or up north, active and sporty individuals usually explore the great outdoors on bicycles.

For this reason, Thule provides you with the solution to maximize your cars, AUV or SUVs loading capacity via the Thule 9108 Clip-On High. It has a unique Snap On Clamp Type Locking Mechanism that ensures a 100-percent guarantee in carrying your bikes along safely. The Thule 9108 is the same bike carrier used by bike teams in the recently concluded Tour de France. Its convenient features and superb build quality made it the bike carrier of choice in the Tour de France.

For more information on how to gear up and make your vacation a more adventurous one, visit the Thule-EGR showrooms in Ortigas Avenue (744-6367) and Pasong Tamo (892-7847) or log on to www.thule.com.

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TYPICAL RO (Reverse osmosis) water refilling equipment waste 7 of 10 gallons of water, making them environmentally unfriendly and unprofitable. These equipment are also expensive, costing as much as P1 million to set up, and are bulky.

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To learn more about the UHP500 and the business opportunities it can generate for you, call Electromex Inc at 531-6782 or 535-9069, or log on to www.electromexinc.com.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

B2-1

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BUSINESS Monday

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

PC BUYER'S GUIDE
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Car insurance goes through bad patch

By Reynaldo A. De Dios
Contributor

THIRD PARTY LIABILITY insurance is required in the registration of all vehicles.

This is a form of insurance issued by the non-life sector of the insurance industry to protect the vehicle owner in case he gets into an accident and injures another person.

From official records of the LTO, some 4.76 million vehicles were registered in 2004. These include 798,160 cars; 1.65 million utility vehicles, 141,447 sport utility vehicles; 267,977 trucks, 35,003 buses; 23,121 trailers and 1.85 million motorcycles.

The National Capital Region, which includes Metro Manila, accounted for 1.505 million vehicles or 31.62 percent of the total.

Based on the data, the collectible premiums fell short of the actual premiums reported to the Insurance Commission by almost 50 percent.

For example, for 2003, the collectible premiums on 4.3 million registered vehicles amounted to P2.575 billion. But the reported premium to the Commission was only P1.195 billion resulting in P268 million in uncollected taxes.

Undoubtedly, this is a scam of serious proportion and consequence. In fact, the CTPL is currently under close public scrutiny and criticism judging by the rash of news articles in the media on this issue.

How did this happen? The sad truth is that there has been an unchecked proliferation of fake certificates of coverage by some unscrupulous insurers in connivance with unlicensed agents and fixers in tandem with corrupt government personnel.

This has been going on for years until the Insurance Commission brought it out in the open. The loss of tax revenue due the government is indeed lamentable. And when accidents do occur, buyers of fake policies discover to their horror and frustration that they are not insured.

This has seriously affected the image of the non-life sector.

To put a stop to this criminal practice, non-life companies, in close coordination with the Insurance Commission and the LTO, have set up a computerized system several years ago to authenticate the certificates of cover.

It has not been entirely successful, but it did result in a substantial reduction in the number of fake insurance policies..

Recently, the Insurance Commission recommended the establishment of a consortium of all licensed insurance companies to set up a foolproof system to resolve the festering problem.

In response, two proposals have been submitted to the Insurance Commission, one from Road Accident Management Services Inc., and the other from the Philippine Insurance and Reinsurers Association Inc. (Pira) which are now under review.

Meanwhile, it is rather unfair to fault the entire non-life insurance sector as the majority of the insurers have always acted responsibly in the underwriting of CTPL insurance.

Official data disclose that the non-life sector paid out P3.666 billion in claims involving motor vehicle accidents in 2003.

In addition, its investments in government securities totaled P9.9393 billion pesos or 31.23 percent of their portfolio, thus doing its part in nation-building.

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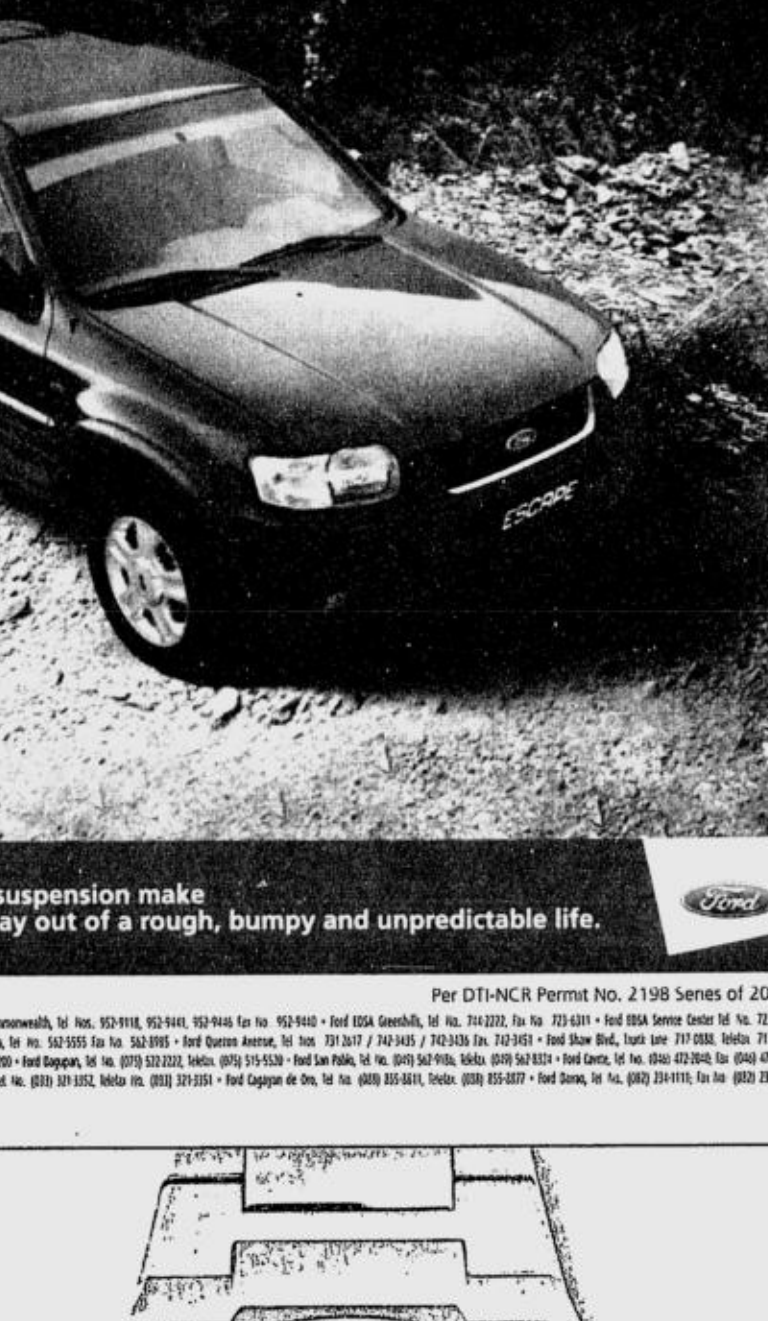

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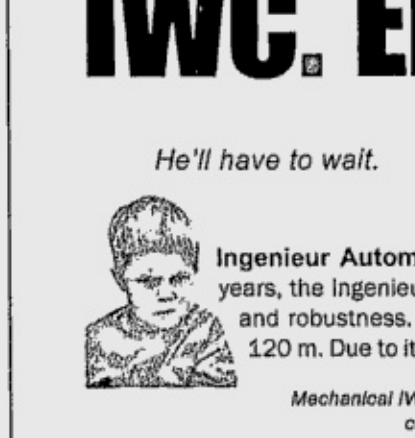

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SME dev't project for healthcare initiated

By Erwin Oliva
INQ7.net

PALAWAN—THE COMMISSION ON INformation and Communications Technology (CICT) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) have initiated a business development project for the Philippines' healthcare sector as part of a government blueprint to generate one million high-tech jobs by 2010.

Under a bigger initiative to encourage information and communications technology use among micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), a national coordinating council focusing on the Philippine health sector.has been created to start implementing a business development plan which CICT designed with the DTI, according to Damian Mapa, CICT commissioner of the strategic business development group.

During a briefing, Mapa said key officials in the Philippine public and private health sectors were named to the national coordinating council for the health sector. Mapa said representatives from Intel, Microsoft, Oracle, SAP and Salus will also be part of this council.

The council will initially focus on generating awareness among MSMEs in the health sector, educating them about the benefits of ICT in improving healthcare delivery in the country.

"We have chosen to focus on this sector first because our one-million high-tech job generation program is also about increasing the quality of service delivered to people," Mapa added.

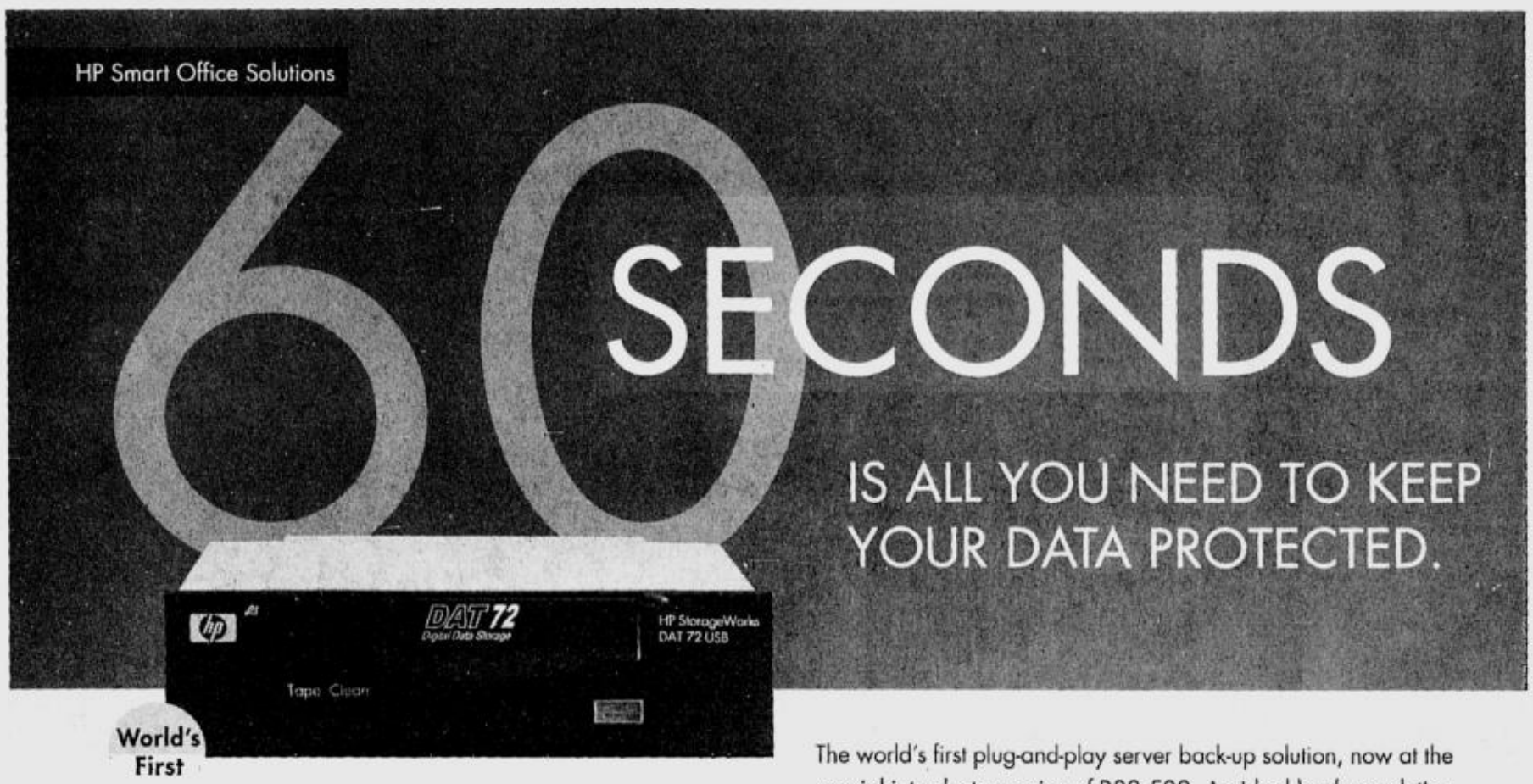
CICT's business development blueprint involves a five-step process, starting with building awareness of the benefits of ICT to MSMEs. The DTI and the CICT are working on specific initiatives such as organizing a summit to build awareness for MSMEs in the healthcare sector.

With increased awareness, the CICT said that the DTI and the CICT and other partners will help MSMEs develop a business plan. Financing and support services will eventually be extended MSMEs who would decide to tap this government program, Mapa said.

The CICT said less than 10,000 Philippine MSMEs use ICT to run their businesses or operations. The common challenges are the poor awareness of benefits of technology, the lack of a sound business plan, the unavailability of funds to buy ICT, the lack of knowledge to implement a sound business plan, and the lack of support to sustain their ICT operations.

Mapa said that the CICT is hoping to learn from the Canadian experience, where MSMEs were able to realize revenue increase and decreased spending as they started using ICT.

"Micro, small and medium enterprises have an impact on the national economy. If they lag, eventually it will undermine the national economy in the long-term," the CICT official said.



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DELL

Dell invites Filipinos to join contact center in RP

Abigail L. Ho
INS

MICHAEL DELL, CHAIR OF COMPUTER maker Dell Inc., is reaching out to Filipino talents to consider a career in the 700-seat contact center the company will be opening in the Philippines in February 2006.

Through a Webcast that will run on the company's website from Oct. 14-21, Dell will be enticing Filipino customer service representatives to join the Dell contact center here.

"We've come to the Philippines for the very best technical and customer service professionals that we can find. We believe that we've got the best career opportunities that you can find. We hope you'll join our team," Dell said in his webcast.

Dell International Services Philippines, a wholly owned Dell subsidiary that will be in charge of the local contact center, will be embarking on an aggressive recruitment process starting this month.

Apart from the webcast, the company will also send out test-based broadcasts, print ads and banner ads through a partnership with short messaging service community Chikka.com.

The company's Philippine contact center would be an integral part of its strategy to expand beyond personal computers and enter the world of consumer electronics, said Doy Roque, designated spokesperson for Dell.

"Dell is transforming from just a PC company into a total technology company. The company sells almost everything direct, through the web or through call centers. It only has resellers in areas where it doesn't have actual offices that can sell directly to customers," he said in a briefing.

Roque said that under the company's expansion strategy, Dell would be veering away from just PCs and would also be selling products such as high-definition television sets (HDTV) and MP3 players.

Although these products would not be sold in the Philippines, he said sales and technical inquiries for these would be handled by Dell's contact center here.

Despite having its own contact center in the Philippines, Roque said existing deals with other call centers would be maintained.

"We can even grow our partner base here. We won't compete with other call centers," he said.

Since its inception in 1984, Dell has capitalized on direct relationships with customers—in person, on the phone or over the Internet—to grow its business. It is the first company to generate $1 million in daily online sales, operating one of the world's highest volume Internet sites.

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MOVEMENTS

New AEV board chair elected

ROBERTO "BOBBY" ABOITIZ was elected as the new board chair of Aboitiz Equity Ventures (AEV) during the company's annual stockholders' meeting in May. He replaced Luis Aboitiz Jr. who has been chair since AEV went public in 1994.

An AEV director since 1994, Bobby Aboitiz is currently chair and CEO of the Aboitiz Construction Group, Aboitizland, Cebu Industrial Park Development and FBMA Marine. He is also SVP of Aboitiz & Company and director of Aboitiz Transport System, City Savings Bank, Davao Light & Power Company, Visayan Electric Company and Tsuneishi Heavy Industries (Cebu). Very much involved in the Group's corporate social responsibility efforts, he is president of the Ramon Aboitiz Foundation and director of the Aboitiz Group Foundation and the Philippine Business for Social Progress.

In the same AEV stockholders' meeting, Justice Jose C. Vitug was elected as new independent director. An Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines from 1993 to 2004, he was recently appointed as chair of the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE). Prior to this PSE appointment, he also chaired the Market Integrity Board (MIB), the oversight body of the exchange's surveillance arm.

Justice Vitug is a senior professor at the Philippine Judicial Academy and is consultant of the Supreme Court Committees on the Revision of the Rules of Court and Legal Education and Bar Matters. He is director of the AUF Law Center, a graduate professor, lecturer, and bar reviewer.

Breathing room

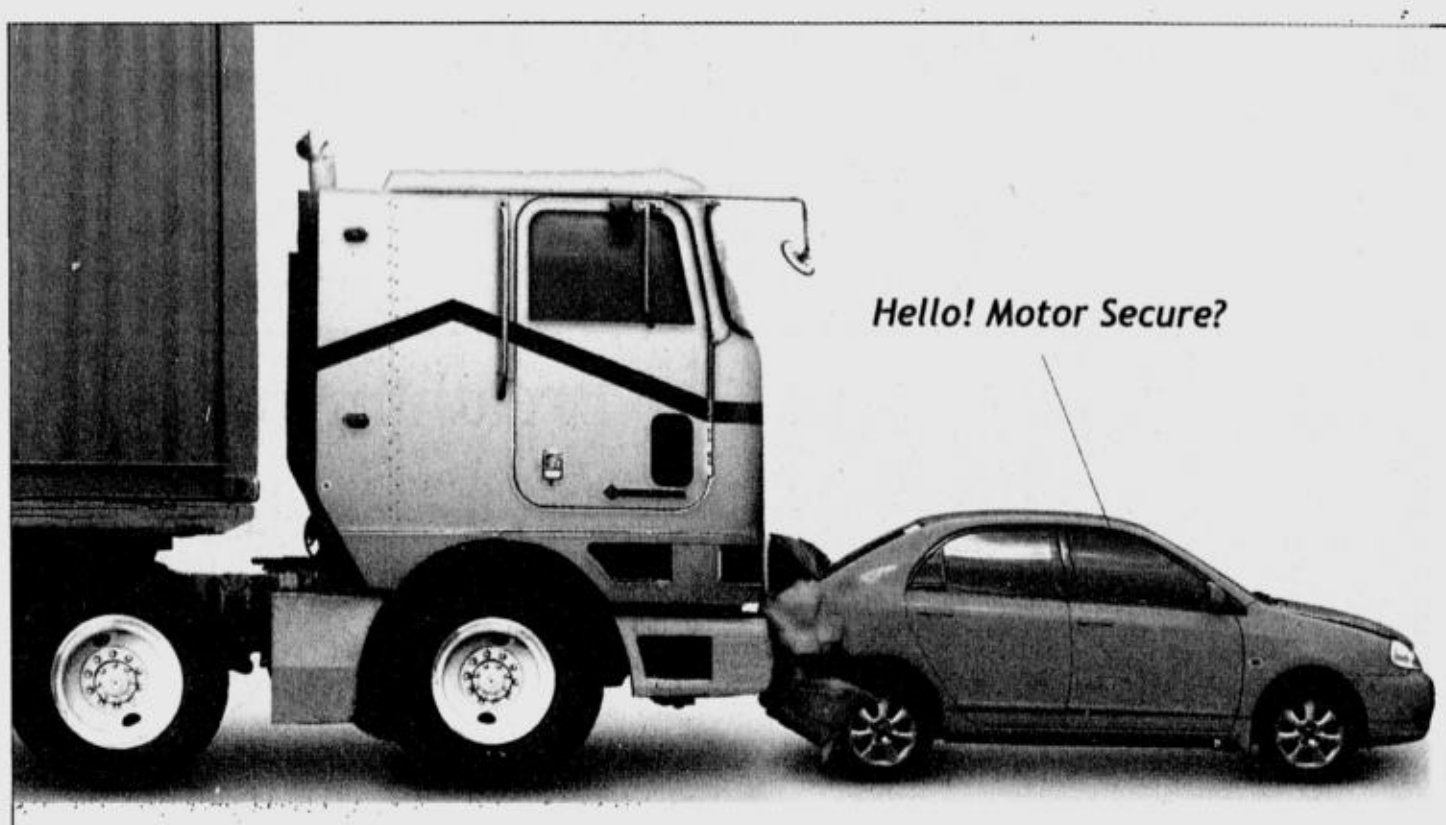
From page B2-4

Look at it this way. For people without margins, everything is difficult and some things are impossible. For people with margins, however, some things are difficult but nothing is impossible.

While it's certainly true that far more people live life without margins than with them, that doesn't have to be the case for you.

Come up with the specific steps you need to take to build some margins into your finances, your relationships and your calendar, and then get busy. The sooner you begin, the sooner you'll start benefiting from an ever-increasing range of options.

(For information on John Maxwell's in-house or public leadership programs, please email us at maxwell@inspire.ph or call 813-2732/03 and ask for Gina. Text MAXWELL ON to 4632 (Smart) to get daily SMS leadership insights from John Maxwell.)



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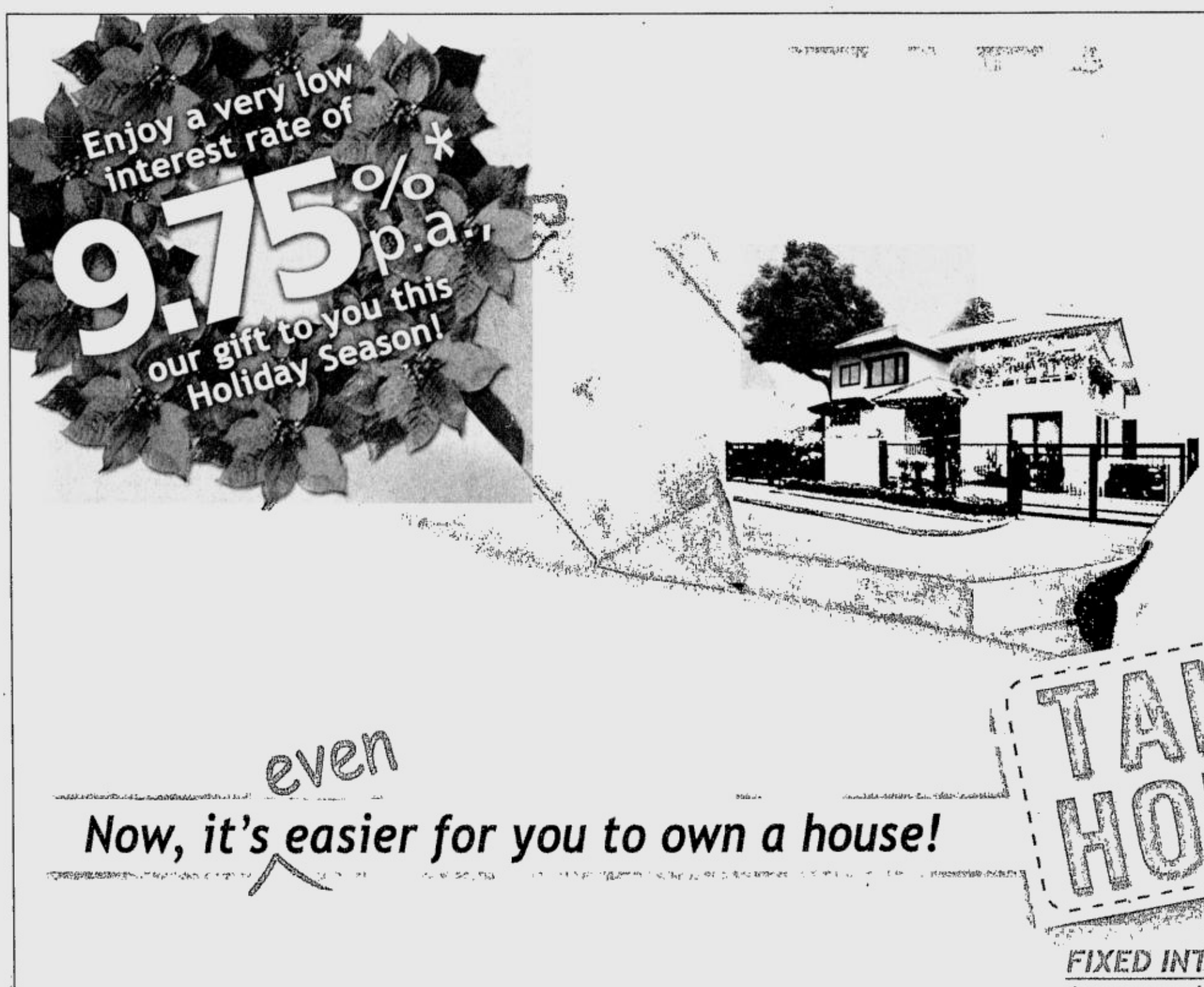

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A LEADER'S WAY

John C. Maxwell

WHEN I MENTOR YOUNG LEADers, I always stress to them the importance of having margins in their lives.

What exactly are margins? Margins give you breathing room so that when something goes wrong—as it surely will sooner or later—the problem isn't compounded because you don't have an answer.

Let's take an example from the world of finances. Having financial margins mean you're putting a little bit of money aside regularly so that when you get hit with an unexpected economic problem, you're able to take care of it without it turning into a crisis.

Margins don't just apply to money, of course. They also apply to your time and your relationships. Here's another way to look at it.

When you're living a life with margins, you conduct yourself in such a way that you always have some IOUs you can collect.

Those IOUs might take the form of goodwill from another person, money you have saved or even time you have set aside in case you don't get a certain project done.

Whatever the case, margins help you manage situations that could easily turn into major disasters otherwise.

Although margins are extremely valuable, they don't just happen naturally. As I make it a point to tell young leaders, you have to work hard to build them into your life. But it's definitely worth the trouble, and here's why.

With time, effort and purpose, margins become options. And options, in turn, give you choices, so that when you experience some kind of hardship, it's okay.

You might take a few hits, and you might come away with a few bumps and bruises, but with margins, the pain is often only temporary.

This isn't rocket science. In fact, it's actually very simple. If you work hard enough and long enough with margins, those margins eventually grow into options that affect your personal fulfillment and quality of life. You don't have to work when you don't want to work, and you don't have to do what you don't want to do. You get to a point where you have an incredible amount of freedom, all because of the options.

This reminds me of something the late Mary Kay Ash, founder of the cosmetics empire that bears her name, believed very strongly.

"Nothing's easy," she said, "but everything's possible if you work hard."

In other words, you can do anything in this world if you want to do it badly enough and if you are willing to pay the price.

You might look at your life and think, "There's no way I can develop any margins with my checkbook, my family or my relationships with people at work." But what Mary Kay said definitely applies.

It's not easy to develop margins, but it is possible if you work hard. And as I said before, the resulting freedom you'll experience is definitely worth the effort.

BREATHING/ B2-3

Is 'change or perish' applicable to RP?

MAPPING THE FUTURE

Franco G. del Rosario

THE THEME OF THE MAP CEO Conference on Wednesday is "Change or Perish: The Choice is Yours!"

This is applicable to the Philippines today.

You may have read accounts of the study of the Asian Development Bank. There is one statement there that caught my attention: "Efforts to address the problems have always been stymied by a culture resistant to change and the lack of political will."

In the "Good to Great" book of Jim Collins, his research team was looking for that one BIG thing that companies did that made them leap from good to great. They could not find any.

What they did find was that there was no miraculous turnaround event that provided the breakthrough for these companies. They were simply working constantly at improving small things.

Call to action

At the end of the conference, the delegates will be challenged to embark on an initiative within their control; where they need not depend on others to achieve it.

This initiative is simply all of us doing small things for our country. I would like to clarify that this initiative is an addition to, and not a replacement for, the things you are currently doing for the country.

What would be example of small things? One would be picking up litter as we walk down the office hallway or in the mall.

I believe that one big reason for the craziness on the road today is our constant rush to get to where we're going and to get there on time.

One small thing we can do is to start out earlier for our appointments. These small things are steps that will help tame the dogs in this dog-eat-dog world.

Another small thing is to ask your friends to get rid of sirens in their car—unless they double-up as an ambulance. Each one of us possesses the core values of integrity and excellence. Let us promote those values inside and outside the company, 24/7. Each day that passes is a day lost forever. Let us make every day count.

Wake-up call

You may hear people say, "what's the point of doing small things for the country. I am only one. There are so many enormous problems. I cannot make a difference."

Helen Keller has an answer: "I am only 'one' but still I am 'one.' I cannot do everything, but still I can do something I will not refuse to do the something I can do."

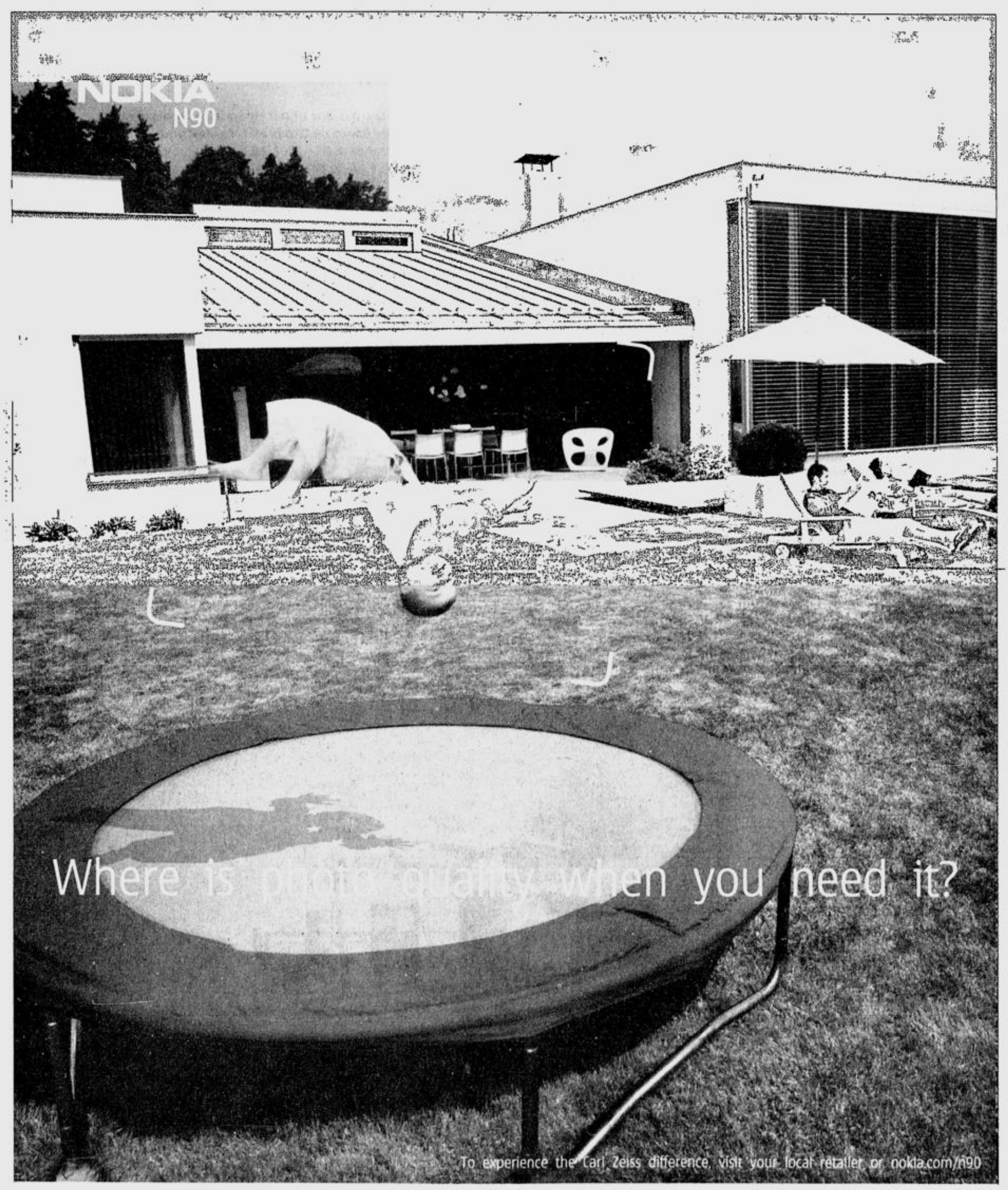
The call to action in this conference is for the delegates to practice and espouse small things in their respective companies. Why business leaders? Because business leaders are in the best position to make positive changes for the country.

Our team members respect and give us emotional power as they are looking for acceptance. If our team sees us doing small things for the country, we can ask them to do the same. We are, after all, in the same team—the Philippine team.

The delegates will be given pieces of paper that they will be asked to sign and bring back to their firms for their team to sign.

Here is the pledge: "I decide to lead change in the Philippines. To believe and not to doubt. To embrace, not to resist. To enable, not to inhibit. To be a force for good, not for evil. To defy all fears and the odds. To raise my standards for the country. To believe that I can make a difference. To inspire others with that confidence. To step up and take a stand and we will have extraordinary lives in this great country of ours, the Philippines."

(The author is co-chair of the MAP CEO Conference Committee and managing consultant and CEO of Six Sigma Consulting. Feedback at mapsec@globenet.com.ph)



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Grand multicultural music-making

STORY ON PAGE C2

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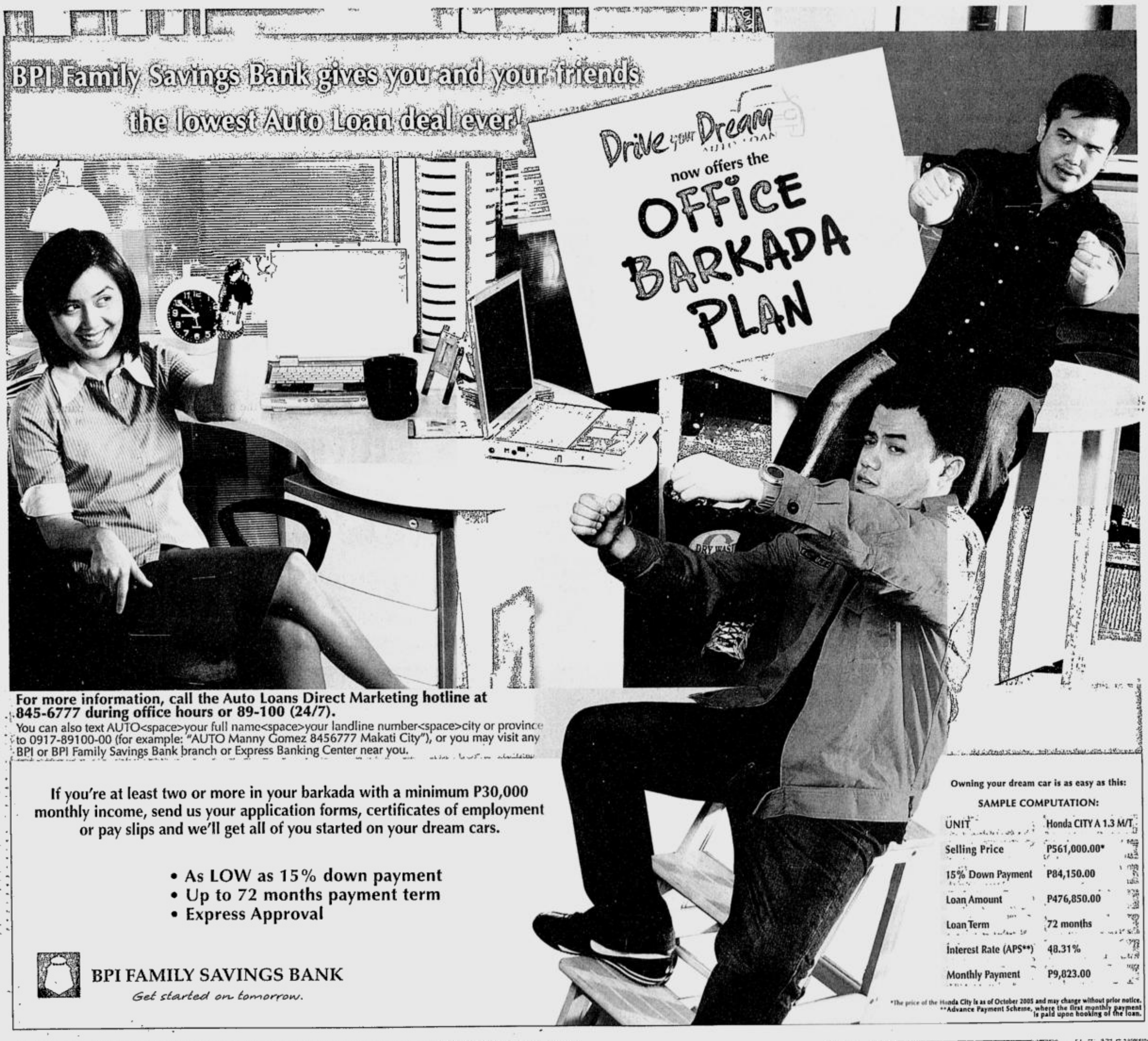

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Grand multicultural music-making

AMERICAN master drummer Bill Cobham has been playing percussions with artists the likes of Miles Davis for over 30 years.

The Womad arts festival in Singapore was an opportunity to headbang for a common cause

By Irene C. Perez
Photos by Eugene Tang

AN ISRAELI IN DREADLOCKS played the organ for a Touareg artist. A male Indian dancer gave Bollywood dance lessons to Brit and Chinese girls, while a funky Singaporean group whipped the crowd into a dancing frenzy with their Brazilian samba music fused with Afro-Latin beats.

Five stages, 18 artists from 12 countries and five continents, one ultimate goal. This was the Womad arts festival in Singapore, an event that celebrated music, arts and dance drawn from a mishmash of cultures all over the world to bring the message of unity through arts.

Womad, or World of Music, Arts and Dance, kicked off in England in 1982 from English musician Peter Gabriel's vision of "introducing an international audience to many talented artists." The festival is akin to the hippie-counter-culture Woodstock event and France's Fête de la Musique. Since then, 145 festivals have been presented in 22 countries and islands.

Ten Womad events are scheduled from March to December this year, covering New Zealand, Spain, Sicily and the United Kingdom. Singapore hosted the eighth leg of the tour in August.

Far from the stiff, high-brow image usually associated with the progressive island, Singapore has been hosting the annual gig for eight years now. It was awarded the Best Experience at the 19th Singapore Tourism Awards.

This year's three-day jam at Fort Canning Park saw multicultural audiences in three outdoor stages, a gallery where artists gave bite-size workshops and a tunnel for the party crowd. There was also a bazaar-like Global Village that exhibited international crafts and foodstuff, from Sri Lankan puppets to Turkish ice cream.

Intimate gig

While about 20 percent of the crowd were tourists, and the artists themselves spoke different languages, festival director for Asia Sarah Martin said communication was hardly a problem because the artists could simply jam and play.

"The beauty of Womad is to put people and culture together on one platform through a beautiful, peaceful process," she said.

Around 7,000 people, mostly in their teens and 20s, popped up on the warm, bustling Saturday night of the event. Martin said they quickly ran out of tickets.

"We're not here for the money, we want everyone to enjoy. We're trying to make it self-contained, intimate," she said.

Each artist was handpicked from a roster of aspirants. Martin and the UK team go through tons and tons of CDs each year to choose who would play in the event.

This is a regular job for her. After the three-day gig in Singapore, she and her team will start planning for the next one.

Not just world music

American master drummer Bill Cobham topbilled this year's performers. A consummate percussionist for over 30 years now, he has worked with the likes of jazz giant Miles Davis.

"We need your support. We don't play for ourselves, we play for the audience. If we have more people interested in the arts, it means we have more brains. We think," he said.

Cobham awed the crowd with his ambidextrous skills as he pounded on the drums with his eyes closed.

Admitting his brand of jazz was not that popular (compared to the likes of Michael Bublé's and Norah Jones') especially among the younger pop crowd, the animated Cobham explained: "Jazz is self-

ISRAELI artist Idan Rachiel

BUDI, front man of Singaporean group Wicked Aura Batucada

ish. It is a highly intellectual platform."

"Music is all about learning, it's never about being comfortable. It's the thing that you like to do. It is to be cunning," said the indie artist. "When I play the drums, I always think of what I want to do. But everything has a price. You've got to have a lot of patience."

Would he recommend working as a musician, though?

"No," he answered, laughing. "But it's the only thing I know how to do, it's the only thing I wanna do."

Another crowd favorite was the Idan Rachiel Project, a group of eight from Israel that played ambient-like Israeli-Ethiopian folk songs with loads of percussions and chants. Each member had mastered his instrument and could be a stand-alone performer.

Frontman Idan Rachiel might not look like your usual pop star in his all-black boho ensemble, turban, dreadlocks and piercing eyes, but the 28-year-old musician had a huge following in Israel.

The Idan Rachiel Project is not a band, he said, but a music company. Rachiel, an all-around musician who had been working with Israeli pop and rock stars for some time, scouted for artists and asked them to work with him.

A virtual unknown, he had a pool of 70 artists for his first album, "Idan Rachiel's Project," which shot up to No. 1 on the Israeli music charts. His fame, he said, was not intentional. "It's not our job to make it commercial," he said. "I don't regard myself as an icon."

It would be easy to classify the Project's sounds under "world," but Rachiel would rather call it "Israeli music." It has raw and moving bursts of energy with fast riffs and drum loops, fusing rural and urban, traditional and modern Middle Eastern sounds.

In Womad, he performed with Wogderass Avi Wassa, who did fast songs; Cabra Kasaisings, who chanted in Hebrew; and Maya Abraham, who exhibited notable Arabic influences.

Rachiel said some of the songs might be dealing with politics, "but at the end of the day, it's all about being alone, and the subject is about love. It is to see the world from the outside."

Wicked lineup

Crowd favorite Wicked Aura Batucada played *batucada* music fused with local ethnic rhythms with intense power. Nomadic "roots rock rebels" Tinariwen from the Republic of Mali, meanwhile, rendered some African blues-influenced pieces.

The Dhol Foundation of London bounced onto the stage with their large wooden drums. Algerian Akim El Sikameya played Arabic-Andalusian music. Indian artist Sheema Mukherjee strummed classical sitar pieces.

Coming from Sri Lanka with their Kandyan dance and drumming was Ravibhandu Vidyapathy. The French group Les Yeux Noirs demonstrated Gypsy music. Malaysia's "jazz queen," Sheila Majid, provided smooth jazz and RnB sounds.

UK's first mainstream Asian DJ Apache Indian rocked the park with Anglo-Asian mixes. Yes, he's the same artist who performed the '90s hit "Boomshackalak."

Other performers were Singaporean hip-hop artist DJ r-H, Cuban band Asere, Australian singer-songwriter Lior and vintage reggae/funk group Future World Funk.

Sri Lankan puppeteer Sri Anura and Singaporean visual artist Sun Yu-Li also exhibited their works.

Martin said they would keep each year's festival fresh by mixing traditional, New Age and fusion music, by finding artists with different styles and looking for new materials and approaches.

Or, as Gabriel put it, "Music is a universal language. It draws people together and proves, as well as anything, the stupidity of racism."

The nomadic music fest did just that, and proved that passion for music and the arts could bring a multicultural society swaying and headbangin' for a common cause.

Visit www.womadsingapore.com and www.stb.com.sg. Photos courtesy of Singapore Tourism Board and www.singaporesights.com

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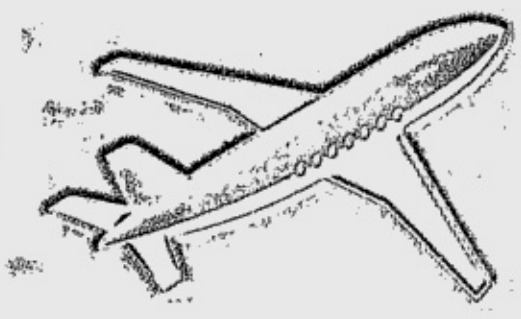

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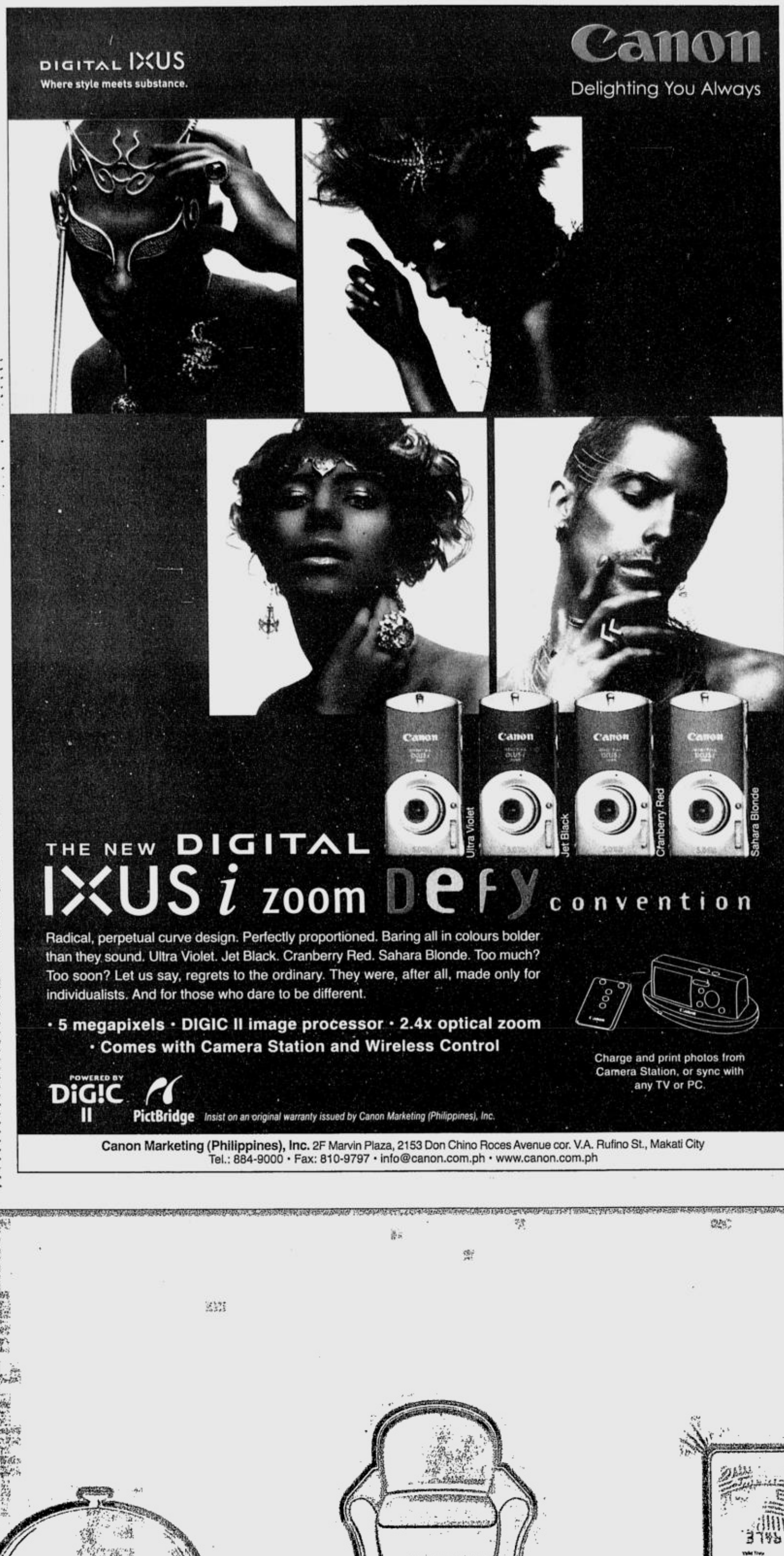
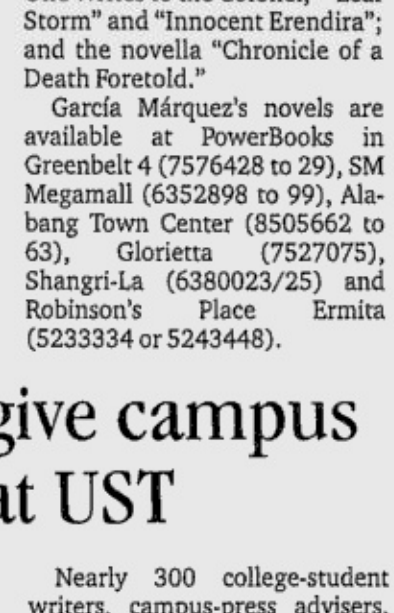


Nobel Prize reads for October


GABRIEL García Márquez

THE COLOMBIAN WRITER Gabriel García Márquez was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1982 "for his novels and short stories, in which the fantastic and realistic are combined in a richly composed world of imagination, reflecting a continent's life and conflicts."

Born in 1928 in the small town of Aracataca, situated in a tropical region of northern Colombia, García Márquez began his career as a reporter for the El Espectador, for which he wrote a series of articles exposing the facts behind a Colombian naval disaster.

The series won him journalistic fame and the articles were subsequently published in book form as "Relato de un naufrago" (The Account of a Shipwrecked Person), but it was through fiction that García Márquez gained his reputation as the world's foremost writer of magic realism.

His masterpiece "One Hundred Years of Solitude," which won the Rómulo Gallegos Prize in 1972, is a family saga mirroring Colombia's own history. Like many of his works, the novel is set in the fictional town of Macondo, a place similar to García Márquez's native Aracataca. Written with a skillful mix of realism and fantasy, the novel presents the story of the town's decay as well as an ironic epic of human experience.

García Márquez's other noteworthy literary works include the novels "The Autumn of the Patriarch," which again explores the theme of decay, this time by depicting with typical exaggeration and ironic humor the barbarism, squalor and corruption that prevailed during the reign of a Latin American military dictator; "In Evil Hour"; "Love in the Time of Cholera"; three short-story collections—"No One Writes to the Colonel," "Leaf Storm" and "Innocent Erendira"; and the novella "Chronicle of a Death Foretold."

García Márquez's novels are available at PowerBooks in Greenbelt 4 (7576428 to 29), SM Megamall (6352898 to 99), Alabang Town Center (8505662 to 63), Glorietta (7527075), Shangri-La (6380023/25) and Robinson's Place Ermita (5233334 or 5243448).

Mediamen give campus press talks at UST

TOP MEDIA PRACTITIONERS will grace Inkblots 2005: The Seventh UST National Campus Journalism Fellowship, which opens today and runs until Wednesday at the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex and Beato Angelico Bldg. of the University of Santo Tomas.

The fellowship is organized by the Varsitarian, the 77-year-old official student organ of UST, and supported by Newsbreak magazine and Inq7.net.

Inkblots consists of seminars in news writing, sports writing, investigative reporting, features writing, culture and lifestyle writing, Filipino literature, journalism ethics, and campus paper management. There will also be parallel sessions on editorial writing, cartooning, photojournalism, and broadcast journalism.

Nearly 300 college-student writers, campus-press advisers, and high-school journalism students nationwide have registered for the event.

Speakers include Charie Villa (head of news team, ABS-CBN), Sheila Coronel (executive director, Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism), Arnold Clavio (news anchor, GMA-7), Quinito Henson (sports columnist, Philippine Star), Ruel De Vera (associate editor, SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE), Maritess Vitug (editor in chief, Newsbreak), Glenda Gloria (managing editor, Newsbreak), Nestor Cuartero (entertainment editor, Tempo), Rene Aranda (cartoonist, Star), Ernie Sarmiento (chief photographer, INQUIRER), Alice Colet-Villadolid (Philippine Press Institute), Luige del Puerto and Christian Esguerra (news reporters, Inquirer), and Rina Jimenez-David (opinion columnist, INQUIRER).

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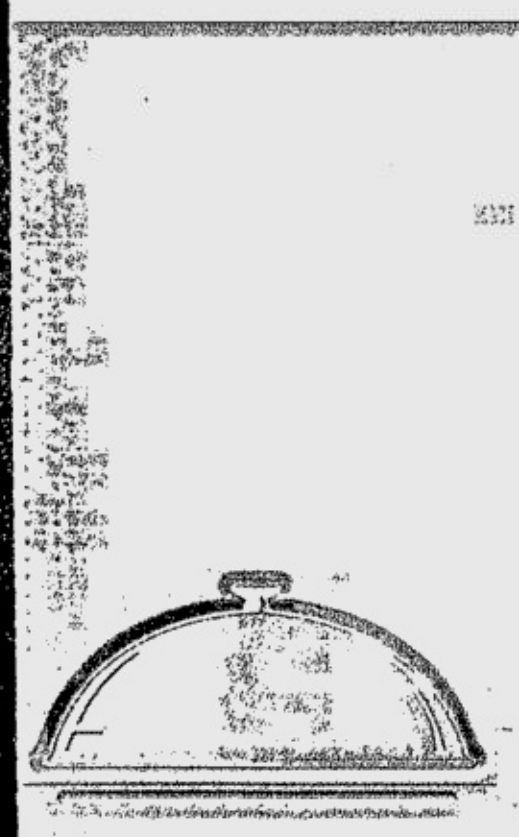
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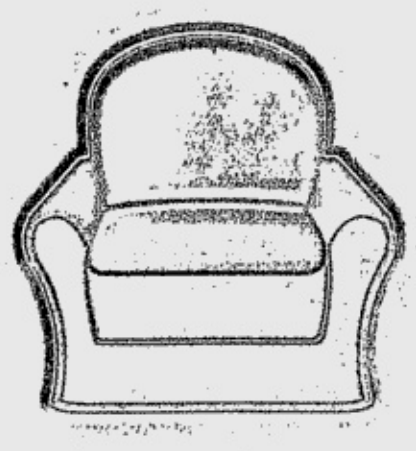
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Two poets in conversation

A DIFFERENT BOOKstore, in cooperation with De La Salle University's Department of Literature, will hold a special literary presentation called Writers in Conversation, featuring Marjorie Evasco and R. Zamora Linmark.

The two writers will discuss poetry in the books they have published. The event will be on Oct. 28, 6 p.m., in A Different Bookstore, Eastwood City, Libis. It is open to the public.

Evasco has released "Dreamweavers: Selected Poems 1976-1986" (Aria Editions, 1986), and "Ochre Tones: Poetry in English and Cebuano" (Salimbayan Books, 1999). Both won the National Book Awards for Poetry from the Manila Critics Circle.

Evasco was awarded the Gawad Pambansang Alagad ni Balagtas for Poetry by the Unyon ng mga Manunulat ng Pilipinas (Umpil) in 2004; and the Gawad Patnubay sa Sining (Literatura) by the City of Manila in 2005.

She is currently a University Fellow and Professor of Literature and Creative Writing at De La Salle University in Manila.

R. Zamora Linmark was born in the Philippines and raised in Hawaii, USA. He is the author of the novel "Rolling the R's" (Kaya Press, 1996) and the poetry collection "Prime Time Apparitions" (Hanging Loose Press, 2005).

His work has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies such as "Bamboo Ridge," "Zyzzva," "Charlie Chan is Dead" 1 and 2, and "Hanging Loose." His poem "What Some Are Saying About the Body" received the first prize in the 2003 Philippines Free Press Literary Contest.

His honors include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the J. William Fulbright Foundation, and the US-Japan Friendship Commission.

He is currently a Fulbright Visiting Professor/Researcher at De La Salle University-Manila, where he has just conducted a graduate class on Popular Culture and Fiction Writing.

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BELLE EPOCH. Terpsichore One dancers wearing stylized Maria Clara recall the elegance and charm of the Spanish colonial days in this Paseo Suite. One of the exponents of the revival of Philippine dance forms, reinterpreted and staged for modern audiences, the group was among the featured performers during the Search for Mr. & Ms. Health sponsored by the Department of Health and held at the Meralco Theater.

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New works at CCP

THE CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES opens its doors to new works and artists with a festival of works in progress billed "Waiting in the Wings."

Featured in the program are:

• Oct. 20, Bulwagang Amado Hernandez, 5 p.m.: Palanca-winning playwright Jose Victor Torres teams up with Palanca-winning poet Lourd de Veyra in "The Exiles," a play on the passions of political exiles. Directed by Dennis Marasigan.

• Oct. 27, Bulwagang Amado Hernandez, 5 p.m.: The renowned Labayen Dance International Workshop presents "Ideas in Progress," the culminating activity of a series of workshops in modern dance.

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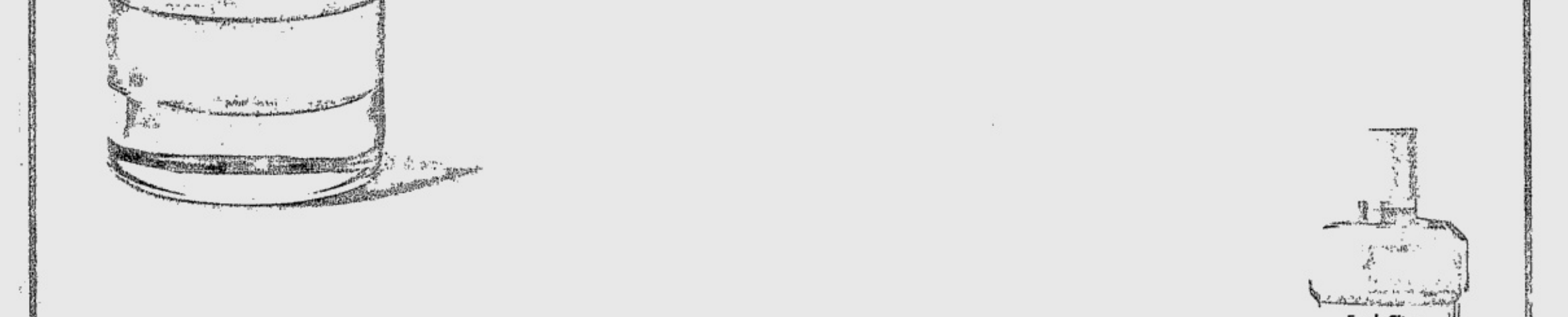

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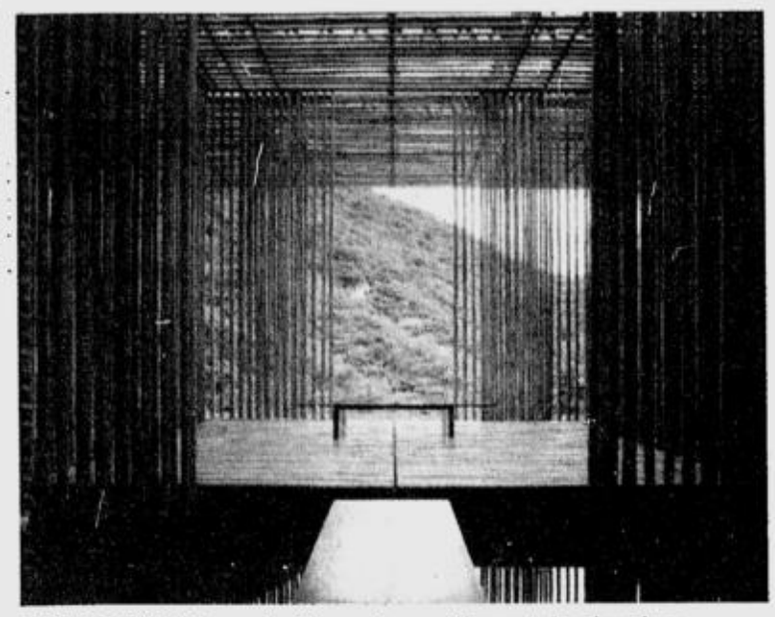
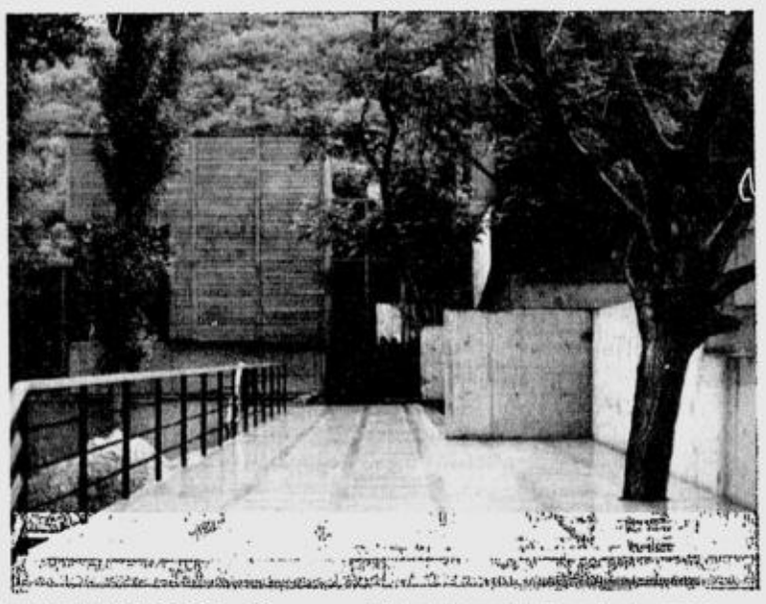


BAMBOO Wall House by Kengo Kuma of Japan takes bamboo scaffolding to the 21st century. Bamboo is combined with hard-edged architecture, evoking the new Asia.



THE CLUBHOUSE by Korean architect Seung H-Sang juxtaposes raw concrete, wood and rusting steel in complete contrast with the voluptuous countryside near the Great Wall at Badaling.

The showcase of the best of Asian-built design shows a different sort of Cultural Revolution

China's museum of 'art architecture'

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalon

PART OF THE EXtensive program organized by Holcim for guests attending its recent awards ceremony in Beijing was a visit to the Commune by the Great Wall.

The last time I was in Beijing was in 1970, during the drab Chinese years when everyone wore uniforms. Each time our group arrived in a new city, we would almost immediately be hauled to the nearest commune, made to walk single file through rows of healthy vegetables fattened by night soil whose aroma stuck to everything —farm, buildings and, most of all, our skin and clothes. At the end of each commune day, we all smelled like, well, a bucket full of night soil.

Each commune visit ended with our drinking endless cups of tea, seated drowsily in overstuffed, velvet-upholstered, threadbare furniture with overstuffed arms and backrests covered with freshly starched, white, crocheted doilies. There we listened to many "short introductions," extolling the virtues of commune experience as a backbone of communist society.

Expecting more of the same, I tried to get out of going to the Commune by the Great Wall. My hosts were firm. This was a "new" kind of commune, they said, something they thought the Holcim guests would like, and flatly insisted that I come. End of story.

When I got there, I was totally unprepared for what I saw.

Clubhouses

The commune turned out to be a museum of the "Art of Architecture" with 11 houses and a clubhouse designed by architects from different Asian countries.

Constructed on a voluptuous, forested 8-sq-km site in the beautiful Shuiguan Valley on the hills next to the Great Wall (it was close to two hours' drive from Beijing), the development won a Special Prize awarded to an "individual patron of architectural works" at the 2002 Biennale di Venezia.

If it were not for the view of the Great Wall, an endless, undulating strip following the mountaintop topography above the development seen from every house, the ultra-contemporary Commune architecture gives no clue of its being located in China, although paradoxically each structure borrows its identity from the Great Wall.

There is a dialogue between two monuments—the Great Wall, probably the monument most identified with China in the world view, and a new monument, the architecture museum of the Commune by the Great Wall proclaiming China's new commercialism and globalism.

Structures are labeled "Distorted Courtyard House," "Furniture House," "Cantilever House," "Shared House," "The Twins."

Architecture is taken seriously here, but is of uneven quality. Each structure presents itself as an Asian tour de force designed along

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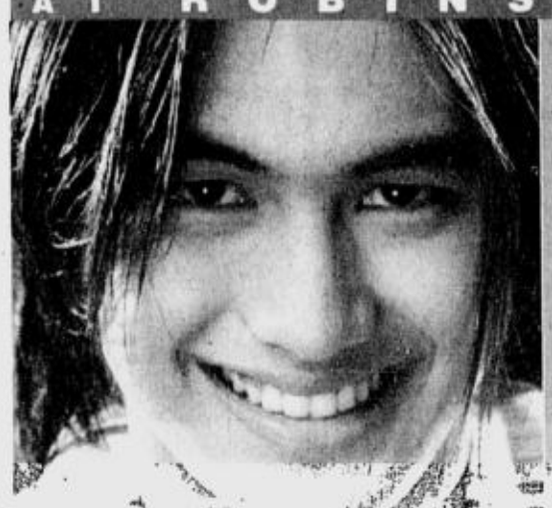

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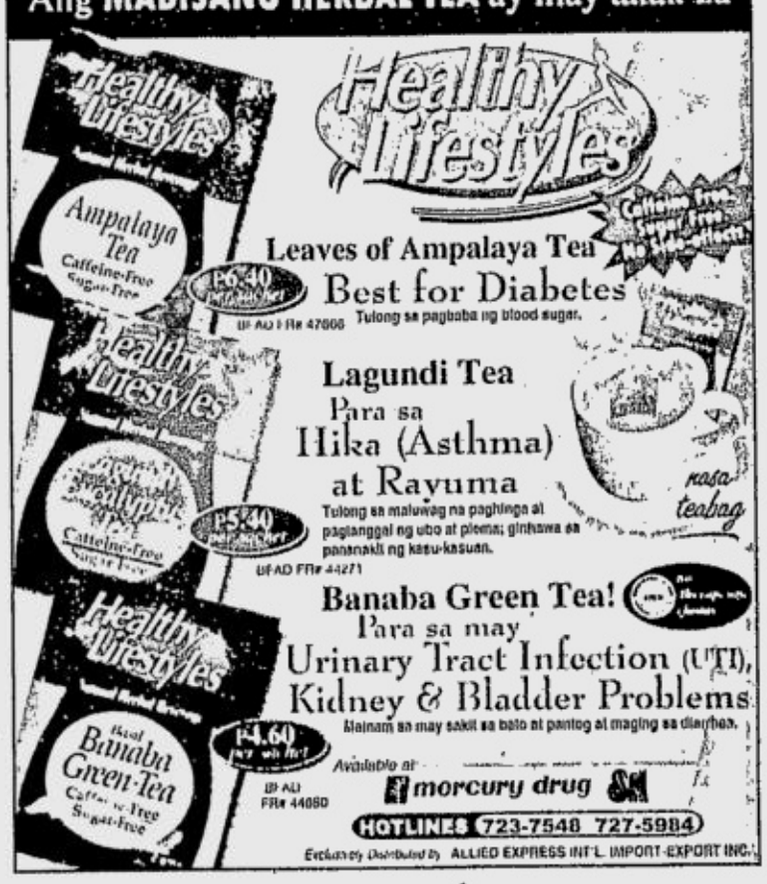


A DIALOGUE with the Great Wall of old China is established through a window in the 21st Clubhouse in the Commune by the Great Wall.

China's museum of 'art ar

From page D1

the lines of the latest architectural vocabulary. The houses, ranging from approximately 300-700 sq m, share the same construction materials—stone, wood, glass, steel and raw concrete.

"Suitcase House," a wooden box jutting impossibly off the mountainside seems not to be anchored to the soil. Its vast main floor provides different levels for living activities that reveal themselves upon activating pneumatic floor panels that rise or drop, allowing hidden activity areas to come into view.

THE "SEE" and "Seen" House designed by architect Cui Kai of China incises its for on the gentle landscape.

Bamboo edifice

Inspired by traditional bamboo scaffolding still common in China, the "Bamboo Wall" house explores bamboo poles as finishing material. A forest of bamboo covers most surfaces, enclosing a large glass-covered area, while a pattern of shadows is cast on the dark-gray stone floor by light filtered through bamboo screens on the walls.

The 12 structures are uneasy neighbors. Each elbows the other in an obvious attempt to stand out as the most ultra-contemporary in the development, superhouses catering to the emerging breed of super Chinese.

The Commune by the Great Wall is a luxury development anchored around a five-star hotel. Most of the houses can be rented out for short visits. Eventually the houses will be replicated elsewhere in the valley and sold.

It is another of the many architectural showpieces designed to show the globe with a vengeance that China has moved out of her colorless past at blinding speed and collided with the 21st century.

The developer, seeing itself as a patron of architecture that embodies the spirit of experimentation, states that the purpose of the architecture museum is "to influence a whole generation of architects, developers and consumers in China, and to contribute to the history of architecture in our reborn 'young' country."

Totally and appropriately hidden from public view, the elite development proclaims China's new commercialism. Th Commune turns its back on-issues lik nomic or social freedom, architectur novation versus cultural identity, "pro versus the systematic destruction o neighborhoods and the subsequent l the traditional way of Chinese life.

Reinvention

"After 50 years of Communism," v Zhang Zin, Commune developer, "C is reinventing herself socially, ecor cally and artistically... real-estate d opers are building 'dream houses. frantic level of energy and the amount of construction happenir such a short period of time has given

Celebrating innocence and friendship

By Gino Dormiendo
Contributor

Addie Cukingnan captures the wonders of childhood while the Cuatro Amigos + One marks 30-year-old ties

THE PAINTER, FOREVER IN A STATE of flux, has finally shifted her brush to the one subject truly close to her heart.

Though traces of the past—flowers and landscapes—are discernible in the new works, the current exhibit delves into the world of children, nondescript Pinoy tykes particularly, whose precocious presence deserves more than just a perfunctory glance.

The artist, Addie Cukingnan, celebrates the wonders of childhood by observing her subjects at play, with a whole repertoire of antics to amuse the viewer.

Proceeds of the show "Alay sa Bantay Bata" at the Renaissance Gallery, Artwalk, SM Megamall Oct. 6-13, will go to the Children's Village project of Bantay Bata begun in 2001 and which now has 118 wards.

Some of the faces may betray a tinge of sadness and angst (despite their youth), but the overwhelming majority reveals mirthful moods and creative make-believe.

Cukingnan, as always, has a soft spot for children, she being part of a brood that loved playing games in the summer, puttering in the spacious garden, and accompanying her father to his appointments in downtown Manila. But she knew the tragedy of poverty suffered by Filipino families and the deprivation of children.

The dream of Bantay Bata 163 to rescue children from parental abuse and neglect, with the construction of cottages at the Children's Village, prodded her to do her share. The long-term goal is, of course, to help rebuild and restore the children's lives and allow them to rejoin the mainstream of society.

The most striking feature of Cukingnan's portraits is the rather tanned complexion of her subjects, a deliberate attempt to show that kids are having a good time with nature as constant playmate. The features are those of ordinary nameless kids who throw caution to the wind, totally unmindful of intruders or strangers as they enjoy their games.

Cohesive

Rare is the group that paints and exhibits as one cohesive artistic unit. Such bonding has made Cuatro Amigos a solid body of veteran artists. Originally consisting of four—Malang, Manny Baldemor, Julius Limpe and Al Perez—it has a new recruit, Ambassador Rafael Gonzales.

The group has come up with an exhibit to mark the 30th anniversary of Philippine-China diplomatic relations. Dubbed "China through the Eyes of Cuatro Amigos + One," the five-man exhibit (Asia Art Gallery, Art Plaza, Shangri-La Mall, until Oct. 25) offers a sumptuous lauriat of images that makes China an indomitable presence in this age of globalization.

Malang's images were culled from his recent trip to Hong Kong, a booming metropolis that has not lost its Old World character. His colors are brimming with the usual dose of gleeful luminosity.

Baldemor, an indefatigable traveler, offers his own version of the Xi'an warriors of China, inspired by the country's terra-cotta soldiers. With acrylic impastos swirling around his main subject, Baldemor approximates the wonder of Mt. Li, a world treasure to behold.

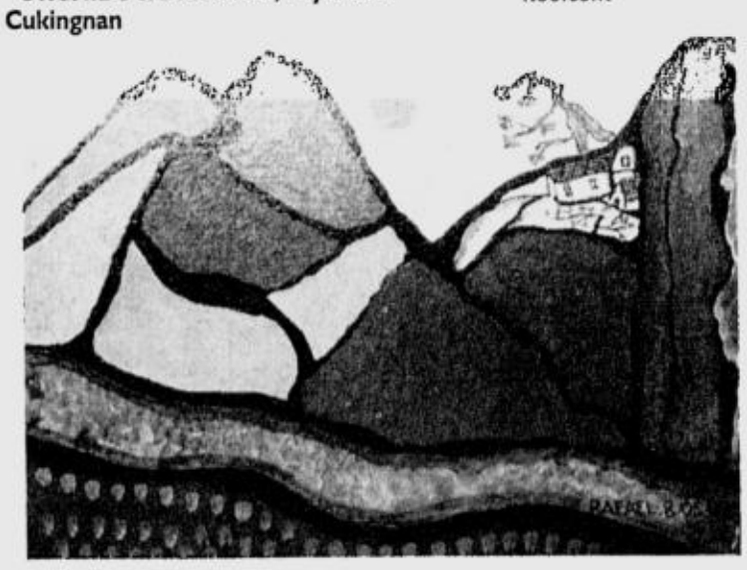
Limpe, who traces his roots to China, paints images of his trademark fish symbols and fearless canine guards of a Chinese temple. He has not ceased to surprise us as he revels in exuberant green hues and the effervescent presence of Chinese icons.

Perez, who has just come back from a month-long art exhibit in various American cities, presents an imagery of birds from his recent Chinese foray. The images bear a strong Chinese influence.

Gonzales, now retired, has become a full-time artist at 78, presenting his own rendering of the Chinese landscape. He opened the Philippine embassy in Beijing in 1975.

E-mail the author at gdormiendo@yahoo.com

"ORCHIDS & Butterflies," by Addie Cukingnan



"PEASANT House in China Mountains," by Rafael Gonzales

"VIEW in Xiamen, China," by Al Perez

"A DOG Guarding the Chinese Temple," by Julius Limpe

"THE XI'AN Soldiers," by Manny Baldemor

Pilapil at Met Mus at West, Pacena a

VISUAL ARTS

TOP SCULPTOR Impy Pilapil is holding an exhibit on paper art and constructions at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila. Pilapil collaborates with home and accessory designers Tes Pasola and Tony Gonzales for a unique show at the museum's Tali Galleries.

SALVADOR Convocar's fascination with ancient civilizations continues in his latest exhibit "Convocar at West Gallery," which runs until Oct. 25 at West Gallery, Megamall A. Using mixed media, Convocar draws from such intricate structures to create his own abstract compositions. Call 6341284.

JERSON Samson shows his recent oils in "Rueda" at Pintō Art Gallery (1 Sierra Madre Grandheights, Antipolo City). The title refers to the colloquial term for a fighting ring, an arena for gladiator-type games of violence and strength. The shows consists of graphic depictions of dogfights.

CARLOS Filart has an ongoing exhibit, "Magical Journey," at Crucible Gallery, 4/F, Megamall A. His works focus on a fantasy dream world. Call 6356061.

AMERICAN watercolorist Theresa Miller's exhibit, "Floral Celebration," will be on display Nov. 4-16 in MuseumSpace at Ayala Museum, Makati. Miller's love of flowers inspired her to paint the flowers of the Philippines, California, Washington and Japan. Call 8153231.

AYALA Museum presents an exhibition featuring 19th-century paintings from Vicky Vizcarra Amalingan's collection. "Harvest of Saints: 19th-Century Paintings," runs until Nov. 13 at the 4/F gallery. The exhibit portrays that the veneration of saints in the Roman Catholic Church as a practice encouraged during the Spanish colonial period. Call 7577117 to 21.

CRISTINA Taniguchi presents a multi-media exhibition "Season of the Crow," until Nov. 18 at Gallery Shop and Gallery 2 of Pinto Art Gallery. Using a variety of works from large-scale oil paintings to drawings and terra cotta sculpture installation, Taniguchi explores the surreal domain of a dream-like world of abundance, memory and passing seasons. Pinto Art Gallery is located 1 Sierra Madre Grandheights, Antipolo City. Call 6971015.

HIS FASCINATION with Venetian masks led actor-singer-artist Miguel Castro to experiment on the myriad possibilities of utilizing them as focal point of an art piece. The result will be shown in "Bal Masque" on Oct. 19-Nov. 13 at Nicotina Garden Pavilion, Roxas Blvd. Service Road, Pasay. Call 7210801/7241762.

Charlie Co's dismal spectacle

"CACTUS"

By Constantino C. Tejero

THE ART OF CHARLIE CO IS A prime example of New Objectivism, that brutal marriage of Expressionism and Social Realism. This is not surprising, given that the artist comes from Negros, an island long known to be a social volcano.

(Another Negrense artist of kindred spirit is Nunelucio Alvarado, who's exhibiting his latest pieces in acrylic and oil on canvas, "Face off," until Oct. 27 in Galleria Duemila at the Artwalk, 4/L, Bldg. A, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City. Alvarado himself has three offspring of similar artistic temperament—New Objectivists all.)

Co's satire of sociopolitical evils takes a particularly cruel turn as he puts his human figures not only through spiritual contortions but also through physical violence.

In this, his art most resembles in look and feel those of Otto Dix and James Ensor. In color and form, he's closer to Dix, while in cruelty and gruesomeness, his images recall Ensor's—all rooted in the art of Goya.

Like them, Co has a strongly theatrical mind, his art always aiming for "strong emotional impact and dramatic imagery." This takes a literal turn as from exhibit to exhibit the viewer beholds scenes and figures set on *carrozas*, floats, thrones, stage, proscenium. Filipino life is depicted as a late-night show, religious procession, puppetry, clowning, *moro-moro*.

This goes on in his recent exhibit "Deadline," 11 pieces in oil on canvas, in Galleria Duemila at SM Megamall.

Here is the familiar imagery of skeleton costume, masks, cactus, crows, dogs, demons, torches, barong-clad demi-humans. The metaphor is, of course, abundantly clear—but the wallop comes from the rendering of the image.

Co's human figures are not quite human, they look cartoonish, yet they appear to possess emotions (expressed through facial and bodily contortions) that are as human as can be. The situations they're trapped in are as grim and grotesque as any in real life, but they're rendered as unreal as graphic illustrations. This is the visual tension that runs through every piece.

Co's colorism is just as notable. The greenness of the thorny plants in "Cactus" underlines the torments perpetrated on the Filipino Everyman. The blueness of the backdrop in "Death Trap" enhances the savageness of the crow men waiting for the barbed-wire walker to fall to their red beaks.

While in recent exhibits Co depicted through satirical jabs and cruel metaphors the shenanigans of previous administrations, now he is becoming more impatient, turning more apocalyptic, putting a deadline on Philippine society and politics to make up or break up.

Co took up Fine Arts in La Consolacion College in Bacolod City.

As a chronicler of our sociopolitical scene, he is committed. As artist he is effective. (We understand this is an on going process.)

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

chitecture'

na almost no time to search for her own contemporary architectural identity."

On the other hand, the Holcim Awards for Sustainable Architecture winners were another breed of architects who took the time to search for China's contemporary architecture identity.

Each of the four winning architects looked at the process of contemporary Chinese architectural reinvention as a way to improve the lives of ordinary citizens rather than the privileged market of the Commune developer.

The winning Chinese entries responded sensitively to China's heritage and traditions. Their schemes were products of detailed searching into their national architectural identity and rapidly deteriorating urban conditions. Each entry saw architecture as a way to improve living conditions while respecting cultural traditions.

None of the award-winning schemes was heroic like the Commune's structures. Instead of calling attention to themselves, they focused on benefiting people by continuing traditions.

What we're seeing is the new coming to light after the dark days of the Cultural Revolution. It's probably the light that will lead the new China into the 21st century.

E-mail the author at afvillalon@hotmail.com

seum, Convocar t Cubicle

YOUNG artist Jaime Pacena II is holding his first solo of digital art distortions on canvas, "In Between," at Cubicle Art Gallery (C. Raymundo Ave. and Stella Maris St., Pasig City). Above is "Cowering Child." Call 09228007453.

FERDINAND Reyes Cacnio's first one-man sculpture exhibit, "The Dancer," is running until Oct. 30 at Avellana Art Gallery. It features welded metal sculptures of women caught in the rapture of dance. More than the stark contrast between the subject and the medium, the pieces present an intriguing new interpretation of the performing arts with the dancer transfixed in time in exquisite grace and aesthetic movement. Avellana Art Gallery is at A-19, 2680 F.B. Harrison St., Pasay City (fronting Gideon Academy). Call 8338357.

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Photo exhibit documents labor movement

UP Vargas Museum hosts photo display to mark a milestone in the labor union movement

THE PHOTO EXHIBIT, "Mga Larawang Pilak," captures in photos the milestones of the past 25 years of the labor union, Kilusang Mayo Uno.

The exhibit is cosponsored by KMU, the Jorge Vargas Museum and the Filipiniana Center of the University of the Philippines. It runs until Nov. 27 at the Vargas Museum.

The photos were selected from thousands of KMU's file photos and contributions from amateur and professional photographers.

"The exhibit will show the human side of the militant labor movement. KMU is not everything grim and determined. Behind our flags, placards and fiery protests is the true passion for life. That is why we are working hard to achieve a prosperous, just and fruitful life for the children of future generations," said KMU chair Elmer Labog.

Included in the exhibit are photographs by Pinoy Weekly photo editor Leo Esclanda, Manila Times lensman Rene Dilan, and freelance photographers Jun Resurreccion and Peter Marquez.

Included in the selection is a photo of slain labor leader and Nestlé Union president Diosdado Fortuna.

When the exhibit opened, KMU held a Picnic and Family Day for workers.

ELMER Labog, KMU chair, cuts the barbwire to open the photo exhibit.
PHOTOS: AUGUST DELA CRUZ

WORKERS' Family Day

UNIONIST holds photo of a slain labor leader.

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